

A letter written in blood and sent to PLO office in Amman

Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jail support Arafat

AMMAN (Star) — Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails in the occupied territories expressed their deep concern and resentment over the present crisis in the PLO. According to PLO sources in Amman, a letter from the prisoners addressed to Mr Yasser Arafat, condemned the present conflict as a "robust conspiracy" aimed at eliminating the organisation and its legitimate leader Mr. Arafat. The prisoners charged Syria for all these tragedies. Another letter which was addressed to the Palestinian nation, soldiers, students and people from all walks of life, described themselves as the martyrs of Fateh, appealed to them to uphold the historic responsibility of the Fateh and to refrain from the conspiracies of Damascus regime. It also blamed Syria for the armed conflicts involving Palestinians and Lebanese in the past and as well as for its support to the Phalangists and isolationists.

They also emphasized that they would support for reforms in the organisation but it should be decided and formulated within the framework of the organisation and not through any other secessionist regimes or at the cost of its legitimate and dynamic leadership. As per records available with the International Redcross Society, there are about 10000 prisoners now in Israeli jails. But it will be several times more, if the actual number is disclosed by the Zionist regime, the PLO sources said to The Star.

Most significant of all the letters was a message written in blood bearing the signatures of prisoners, the League of Arab Journalists amongst other people living in the occupied territories, appealing the PLO leadership to be firm in his stand. They reaffirmed their support for Mr. Arafat, whom they consider as their symbol and conscious.

Turkey's Ozal seen favouring Arab and Islamic worlds

By Andrew Wilson

ANKARA (ONS) — "A night to remember" said a foreign observer as surprise after surprise came in with the Turkish election results. Everybody had expected Turgut Ozal's Motherland Party to do well in the urban constituencies, its middle-class appeal assured it of a majority there.

But no one expected it to win by such a huge margin. Success in the cities was expected to be offset by rejection in the countryside. The peasants were thought likely to put their votes where they thought future power lay — that is, with the National Democracy Party of retired general Turgut Sunalp, the party backed by the military.

When at the last moment on Friday President Evren stepped into the contest

News Analysis

with an uncheduled and highly partisan television broadcast, virtually warning the 20 million electors not to trust Ozal, the split between city and country seemed likely to be confirmed.

Evren's intervention — no contrary to all democratic pretensions — was certain to antagonise the city voters even further but could, it was thought, win the NDP a bigger vote in the rural areas, where Evren is regarded as something of a father figure, as a guardian against the anarchy prevailing before the 1980 military takeover.

In the event, the NDP, and by implication the military who have ruled Turkey for the past three years, were rejected by town and country. Ozal, the free enterprise monetarist who promises wealth for everyone, has been elected resoundingly.

Even more surprising has been the showing of the Populist Party, the third of the three parties allowed to participate after vetting by the military. The Populists, led by a retired civil servant, Necdet Calp, had been early written off by political

pundits as a bit of a joke — a token left-of-centre opposition licensed by the generals in order to give the election an appearance of democracy.

As Turks wake up to what looks like a return to an element of democracy in their country, a number of questions are being asked.

Clearly there is a large Social Democratic constituency in the country whose strength was overlooked. The biggest question, of course, is where Ozal and Turkey will now head, and how the new government will fare in its relations with President Evren, who is now seen as having nailed his colours to the opposition mast.

In contrast to his well-known economic views, Ozal's foreign policy intentions are shrouded in uncertainty. He is "pro-Western" in so far as he supports NATO, and he is himself believed to be strongly supported by Wall Street (rather than by the US administration, which favoured the "safe" Sunalp).

But the real novelty of his position is likely to prove pro-Eastern. In the sense that for Turkey's future prosperity he looks toward collaboration with the Arab and Muslim world.

Before becoming the general's chief economic planner and a vice premier from 1981-82, he was an unsuccessful parliamentary candidate of the religious fundamentalist National Salvation Party.

Ozal is no fundamentalist himself; rather a political operator who, as one opponent put it, finds it convenient to be seen going into the mosque. But his ties with the Arab world, particularly the Gulf, are strong.

Something more could be heard over the next few months of moves to set up a Middle Eastern counterpart to the European Common Market in which Turkey could claim a leading role.

In the meantime Ozal will have to make good the promises of early prosperity with which he wooed the electors — no easy task given Turkey's huge foreign debt.



TOKYO, Japan — First lady Nancy Reagan looks at her husband, President Ronald Reagan, during ceremonies Wednesday at the Akasaka Palace. Emperor Hirohito at right. The US president will also be visiting a number of South East Asian countries. (AP wirephoto)

Reagan discusses defence, trade with Japanese leaders

TOKYO (AP) — President Ronald Reagan arrived in Tokyo on Wednesday and headed for a straightforward, private talk with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone about US-Japanese trade problems.

"He's preaching peace and prosperity," a Reagan spokesman said, referring to the visit's two issues: Defence and trade. Emperor Hirohito, Crown Prince Akihito, Princess Michiko and Mr. Nakasone greeted Mr. Reagan in a formal ceremony at the ornate Akasaka Palace in central Tokyo, which will serve as guest quarters for the Reagans during their four-day visit.

The president and Mrs. Reagan arrived an hour earlier aboard Air Force One at Haneda airport outside Tokyo after a flight from Washington. After a brief welcoming ceremony at the airport, Mr. Reagan headed for the more formal welcome at the ornate, Versailles-style Akasaka Palace, and a round of official meetings — first with the 82-year-old Hirohito, and then with the prime minister, whom Mr. Reagan has met several times previously this year.

It was Mr. Reagan's first meeting with Hirohito, who was revered as a deity during World War II and is the nation's symbolic leader. A senior US Administration official said Mr. Reagan pointed out during the meeting with Mr. Nakasone the effect that a failure to solve (the trade issues) would have on the political relationship between the US and Japan. But there was no indication after the meeting that there is no relationship so important to world peace and security as that between Japan and the United States.

US Secretary of State George Shultz and Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Arima also attended the meeting. Mr. Reagan also expressed concern about Japan's \$20 billion trade surplus with the United States, saying the countries must co-operate closely in dealing with such issues as access to the Japanese market, the low value of the yen to the dollar, opening Japanese capital markets and internationalization of the yen.

Prime Minister Nakasone urged preparations be made for a new round of tariff negotiations to follow the 1980 Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations. He said services, culture and North-South issues would be taken up in these multilateral

discussions after the meeting that program made, and the official, speaking on condition he not be identified by name, said that the US president was "very interested" in this visit to become a trade negotiator.

The official said Mr. Reagan would put a lot of emphasis on the importance of making progress on the issues. Japan foreign ministry spokesman Yoshio Karita told reporters that Mr. Reagan also stressed the importance of US-Japan relations to world peace, calling the Asian and Pacific regions a new frontier of this world.

Mr. Karita said Mr. Reagan told the prime minister that there is no relationship so important to world peace and security as that between Japan and the United States.

Police here said they have an unconfirmed report that 33 Shi'ite Muslim Lebanese extremists were killed and 80 wounded in the 25-minute air strike that left two guerrilla camps ablaze in eastern Lebanon.

A Christian-controlled radio station said several Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guards were among the victims. It said an Arabic-language Iranian radio station was destroyed in the fiery midmorning raid in the Bekaa Valley.

Israel acted on behalf of the United States today, staging the Bekaa air attack to avenge the truck bombing of the US Marine base in Beirut, said state-run Beirut Radio. But an Israeli Foreign Ministry official, who briefed reporters in Jerusalem on condition he not be named, denied the attack had been staged at US

behest, saying: "We are acting for what has been done to us."

A truck bomb destroyed an Israeli military post in Lebanon's southern port of Tyre on 4 November, killing 29 Israeli troops and 32 Arab detainees. The attack came less than two weeks after suicide drivers truck-bombed the US peacekeeping base and a French paratroop command post almost simultaneously in Beirut on 23 October, killing 239 American marines and 58 Frenchmen.



INJURED CHILD: A medical worker carries a young girl into the Islamic Hospital in Tripoli after she was injured in the eye during fighting between PLO loyalists and combined rebel-Syrian forces (AP wirephoto)

casualties from the battle, but could give no estimate on the number killed or wounded.

Mr. Arafat remained in Tripoli on Wednesday night, the official said, but he

would not say exactly where. The PLO leader had appeared briefly at his headquarters early in the afternoon, but made no comment and left a few minutes later.

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Israeli jets bomb Shi'ite camps

BEIRUT (AP) — Israeli jets on Wednesday blasted a base of pro-Iranian extremists Israel suspects of engineering suicide truck-bomb attacks that killed 326 Americans, French and Israeli troops in Lebanon.

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'Can't have it both ways'

The official left unclear whether the US had been informed of the air attack in advance, but Israeli sources noted that Israel and the United States have an ongoing exchange of information.

Israel Defence Minister Moshe Arens has accused Syria of supporting a network of "terrorists" in Lebanon including Palestinian guerrillas and Shi'ite Muslim militias who draw their inspiration from Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

The Foreign Ministry official cautioned reporters not to report the air raid as something that is near or far from the Syrian border, and said that by midday there had been no movement of Syrian ground forces as a response to it.

But he warned that "Syria can't have it both ways. It can't have us attacked by proxy and get away with it. If there is a terrorist attack we will respond."

Tensions between Israel and Syria were heightened in recent days after both countries mobilised their reserve forces, but Israeli officials have sought to play down the possibility of war and stressed that Israel had no intention of attacking Syria.

The two camps attacked on Wednesday are adjacent to the town of Nabi Sheit about 54 kilometres east of Beirut and five kilometres from the border with Syria, whose army controls East Lebanon.

Col. Asa Garkoni of Israel's liaison office in Lebanon said the Israeli planes

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US expects resumption of Hussein-Arafat talks

By Abdulsalam Massarweh

Star Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The current bloody confrontation between PLO leader Mr. Yasser Arafat and Syrian-backed Palestinian militants in North Lebanon will most likely draw the troubled Palestinian leader closer to Jordan, according to a State Department official here. The official told The Star that he expected a resumption of Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue to revolve around peace talks based on the Reagan peace initiative of last year.

The official, who declined to be named, regarded the PLO Executive Committee's decision last week to expel the rebellious members from the committee as a sign that might give Mr. Arafat the mobility he needs to get support for the continuation of Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, which was halted last April in Amman.

This anticipation by the US official gained prominence with the published report in the Wall Street Journal of 14 November datelined Beirut and which stated that Mr. Arafat and King Hussein are exploring closer ties as the rift between the PLO and Syria grows. On Tuesday a PLO official stated that the PLO is thinking of backing anti-government groups inside Syria and Libya if these countries did not stop what he called their crimes against the Palestinian people.

According to the State Department official, the United States, which knows Arafat's positive stand on the Reagan plan, cannot make any public gesture of support to the Palestinian leader because "it will be like the kiss of death for Arafat."

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Soviet Cruise missile to go into service next year

LONDON (AP) — The Soviet Union is expected to begin deploying its own version of the American Cruise nuclear missile next year aboard its Yankee-class submarines, James Defence Review reported Wednesday.

The magazine, published by the prestigious Janes Military publishing House said the missile, labelled the SSN-X-21, makes every Soviet submarine a potential strategic weapons carrier.

Though its guidance system will be less sophisticated than the US-built Tomahawk, it will be able to hit targets.

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LONDON — An American military plane believed to carry the first of the Cruise missiles to be deployed in a West European country on Tuesday. (AP Photo)

Jordan 150 fils

Saudi Arabia & Qatar 3 riyals

UAE 3 dirhams

Kuwait & Bahrain 250 fils

Syria & Lebanon 3 pounds

missile

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hawk Cruise missile, the SSN-X-21 reportedly uses turbofan (propulsion) and microelectronic technology which the Soviets have obtained from the West, the defence review said. It did not elaborate and did not disclose the source of its information.

Nato is deploying 464 Cruise missiles and 108 Pershing-2 ballistic rockets in Western Europe over the next five years. The first of the Cruise missiles arrived Monday at Greenham Common US air base west of London.

Cruise is a generic label for missiles that fly at slow speeds — roughly the speed of a commercial jetliner — and low altitudes as a means of evading enemy radar. By contrast, ballistic missiles fly many times faster and rocket high into the atmosphere before stabbing down their targets.

The American Tomahawk Cruise weapon is ground-launched. It contains a sophisticated computer guidance system that follows an electronic map to keep the

missile hugging the ground until it strikes its target.

It has a range of 1,500 miles (2,400 km), a margin of error of just 50 yards (metres) and a warhead of 200 kilotons — 16 times the destructive power of the bomb that leveled Hiroshima.

The Soviet submarine-launched version, Janes reported, has a similar range and a warhead in the neighbourhood of 200 kilotons. Its accuracy is unknown, however, because the Soviets have been encoding the missile-to-ground telemetry signals during their tests, the magazine said.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly said that it was developing Cruise Missiles in response to Nato's missile modernization programme. According to Janes, US intelligence has known about the Soviet Cruise missile programme since 1978.

The defence review said it is believed the SSN-X-21 will first be deployed in 1984 aboard Yankee-class subs, which have been withdrawn from service as ballistic missile submarines.

The Soviets plan a ground-launched version soon after an air-launched version, probably to equip Blackjack bombers. Later in the 1980's, the review said.

Israel tries to avenge bombing

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ected against Iranian terrorists who have participated in terrorist activities in Beirut and South Lebanon.

The state radio said the Yenta and Sha'ra camps near Nablus were destroyed in 30 minutes of bombing and rocketing rone staged by four Israeli air force jets at 9:20 am.

The camps form the main base of the Amal Islamic Movement and Hezbollah, or Party of God, the factions who publicly lauded the truck-bombing attacks.

The Amal Islamic Movement is headed by Hussein Musawi, a former Lebanese schoolteacher who broke away from Lebanon's dominant Amel (hope) Shi'ite militia to form a splinter group that advocated revolutionary violence as the method to install an Islamic regime loyal to Ayatollah Khomeini in Lebanon.

Arafat seen getting new 'mobility'

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fel." The same official said that there is a mood in Washington nourished by Israel, which likes to see Arafat out of the picture. "Abu Musa PLO" in command. This he said would kill any possibility of moderate PLO end would give Israel to exclude the PLO from future peace negotiations since "Abu Musa and his lack of renegades are identified in the United States and Israel as a bunch of hot-head radicals." The Journal's report said whatever may happen to Mr. Arafat in Tripoli, it will be difficult for the backed forces to ignore Jordan's role in reaching a Palestinian settlement.

Arafat has sent a clear message to Palestinians on the West Bank and Gaza Strip that will make them more inclined to co-operate with Jordan regardless of Arafat's fate.

Israel chokes Gaza university

Dr. Saqr describes academic constraints

By M. Abu Ghosh
Special to the Star

AMMAN — Employees of the Islamic University in the occupied Gaza Strip have not received their salaries for September and October because of the Israeli authorities' confiscation of the university's accounts, says University President Mohammad Saqr.

Dr. Saqr told The Star while on a visit to Amman that the Israeli measure was a punishment for the university's refusal to dismiss six lecturers and to require a work permit for every teacher holding an identity card from Gaza district.

The university has rejected the Israeli demands because they contradict the academic and administrative freedom enjoyed by every university in the world, he said. "The Islamic University is keen to preserve its independence, whether under Israeli or

Arab government, as one of its basic traditions."

The Israeli authorities base their claim on something called Order 380, issued by the former Egyptian military governor in Gaza, which was meant to organize the affairs of a Gaza religious institute — a branch of Al-Azhar in Cairo — until 1961. But, "This cannot be applied to the Islamic University which is governed by rules and decisions of the board of trustees. The order was cancelled by a presidential decree in 1961," he said.

Dr. Saqr accused the occupation authorities of resorting to invalid orders and laws to justify their attempts to restrict academic freedom. "These Israeli measures represent blackmail that conflicts with the most basic of international laws, traditions and customs. They are attempts to subvert the Islamic University and dominate it."

A similar incident occurred last summer, when the univers-

ity could not pay salaries because the authorities prevented the entry of funds. The Israeli demanded that 30 per cent of the incoming money be deducted under a "development fund" regulation; but the university rejected this condition. The funds belonged to an Islamic trust and should be expended according to Islamic law, it said.

The principled stand deprived employees of their salaries, which were made up only by asking the public for donations. The payroll totalled around JD 150,000.

"Everyone in Gaza looks at the Islamic University as his symbol, hence any attack on it is an attack on the Islamic faith," Dr. Saqr said.

In the light of this popular support for the university, the occupation authorities gave permission for the transfer of \$1 million of its funds from Amman to complete university buildings, without making any deductions.

Vigilance foils bombing plots

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A spate of time-bombs, most of which were found before going off, has afflicted the country for nearly one month, causing a tightening of security measures in and around public places.

The first incident took place in the army barracks near the Fourth Circle, when a person in a passing taxi-cab threw a hand-grenade into the compound. The explosion caused little damage, and only one person was slightly injured.

The Interior Ministry announced the discovery of a second bomb on 9 November. Petre, the official Jordanian news agency, reported that the bomb was defused 10 minutes before it was due to go off. It said that a citizen had become suspicious of a carton placed near the back entrance of Saudia Airlines in King Hussein Street.

The second announcement said that 12 kilogrammes of explosives — double the size of the King Hussein Street bomb — was found in a suitcase placed in a vacant lot in Shmeisani, near the Chinese Embassy. A 12-year old schoolboy noticed the suitcase and informed the authorities.

The most recent announcement was that 40 kg of TNT had been found in a parked hire-car near the Ministry of Information and the American Centre on Saturday, 12 November.

Women meet media men

By Amal Ghandour
Special to the Star

AMMAN — "The media can help in closing the gap between pure rhetoric about the need for change, and an actual transformation in women's status in Jordan," said Mrs. Alsha Hijazi this week. Mrs. Hijazi, a member of the executive committee of the Jordanian Women's Federation, made the statement at the opening of a discussion on the role of Jordanian women in the media at the federation centre last Saturday.

Three top newspapermen Mr. Mahmoud Al-Kayed, Mr. Mahmoud El-Sherif and Mr. Yousef Abu Al-Lail were invited to offer their views on the recent success of women in assuming a more responsible role in society, and the media's contribution to it. Mr. Kayed is chief editor of Al-Rai newspaper; Mr. Sherif of Ad-Dustour and Mr. Abu Lail of Sawt Al-Sha'b — the three major Arabic dailies.

Most of the questions put to the three guests revolved around on alleged lack of media coverage of women's activities. Mr. Sherif began by commending "the Jordanian women for her tremendous achievements in social development," but added that Jordan's strides in the economic field far outweigh its advancement in the social sector.

Mr. Sherif agreed that Jordan does suffer from an uncontrollable itch to spend. He added, though, that the Jordanian Women's Federation can help the country overcome this weakness. He suggested the establishment of special organizations devised to hedge against such a "sickness".

AMMAN (Star) — Working Women and the Family Structure in Urban Settings" will come under discussion this week at an international conference sponsored by the European-Arab Social Research Centre of West Germany.

The two-day conference will be opened by Minister of Social Development in Amman Al-Mufti on Friday 18 November at the Regency Palace Hotel. It was brought to Jordan by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. The 23 European and Arab participants will debate the topics on the conference's agenda, and will also hear from some Jordanian guest speakers.

On 3 December, Jordan will also receive four members of the United States Senate and their wives for a visit of a few days. Their programme has not yet been disclosed.

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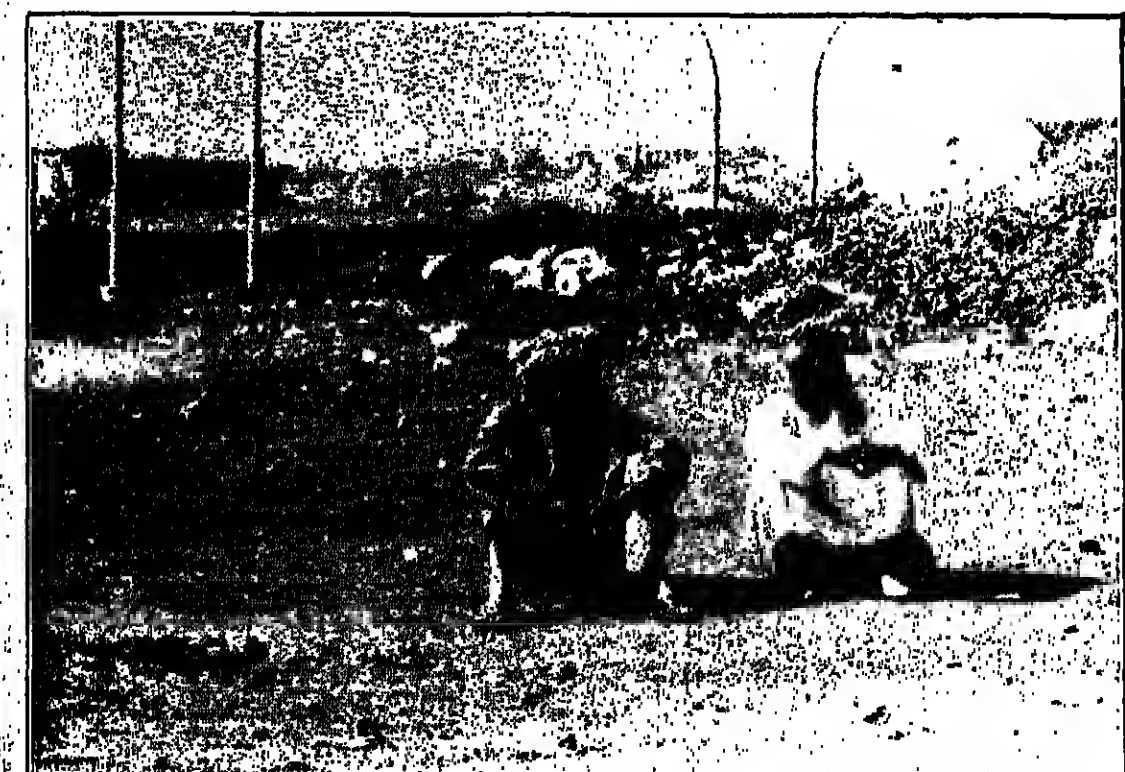
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LONG, HARD WAIT: Travellers find the most comfortable seats they can while waiting for the 'service' from Interior Ministry Circle to Jabel Amman, in this picture by Naser Namroul.

Region's health lab directors seek to upgrade services

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — Medical laboratory services in the Arab World are remarkable for the "severe discrepancy" in means and level of efficiency between central and peripheral laboratories, said a WHO Health Organization (WHO) official here this week.

Dr. Hussein Al-Gazary, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean, made the remarks in an address to the Inter-country Meeting of Directors of Health Laboratories in the region. It was read to the meeting by Dr. Mohammad Hitti, WHO Director of Disease Prevention and Control at WHO/Alexandria.

Well-equipped central laboratories, with the most sophisticated apparatus, may exist side-by-side with shabby, poorly equipped laboratories in field health units which are more like kitchen than laboratories," Dr. Gazary said.

Under such circumstances laboratory services cannot keep pace with other health services, he said. This cannot be attributed merely to historical and psychological reasons; a laboratory today is often regarded as a secondary body dealing with specimens and samples but having little to do with man and his environment.

The six-day meeting opened last Sunday at the Amman Training Hotel. It is attended by 23 countries of the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Canada and US send parliamentarians

By Star Staff Writer

AMMAN — A delegation of Canadian parliament members is due to arrive in Jordan on 20 November for a three-day visit. During their stay, the delegation's members are expected to meet His Majesty King Hussein and some members of the National Consultative Council. They will also be briefed by Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh on the Middle East situation.

Members of the team hope to meet representatives of the

Paestine Liberation Organization (PLO), but it is not yet known which ones.

The Canadian visitors' programme also includes a meeting with the World Affairs Council and a visit to Petra. They will cross to the West Bank on 23 November.

On 3 December, Jordan will also receive four members of the United States Senate and their wives for a visit of a few days. Their programme has not yet been disclosed.

jordan

jordan

Customs law encourages growth

New exemptions, incentives applied, says Qdah

By Khader Mansour
Star Staff Writer
AMMAN — The new customs law, which came into effect on 3 October this year, contains several measures to promote local industry including extension of the maximum allowable temporary entry period for raw materials and semifinished goods, says Adel Qdah, Director-General of the Customs Department.

In its intention to help Jordanian firms market their goods abroad, the government has extended the temporary entry allowance to an initial one-year period, renewable for another year. Under the old law it was allowed for an initial six months, renewable for only three months.

The new law's promulgation was necessary to introduce ideas and principles that appeared to be missing in the previous Customs Law No. 1 of 1962, Mr. Qdah said. It has been supplemented by a series of directives that will guide customs officials in the implementation of its provisions.

In another industry-promoting provision, the law introduces the concept of drawback: meaning that duties levied on raw materials when they enter the country can be reimbursed partially or totally when those materials are incorporated in locally manufactured goods and re-exported.

"The principle of arbitration between the customs administration and importers on the value of goods, or their origin, has been introduced. Also, importers can draw their goods under certain conditions before they pay duties after they submit the necessary guarantees," Mr. Qdah said.

The new law streamlines the regulations concerning in-transit goods by allowing them to be cleared by the approval of the finance minister. Under the old law, a resolution of the full cabinet was needed to clear such goods. The temporary entry into Jordan of machinery and heavy equipment needed for the execution of government projects and other major contracts is also facilitated.

"These can be cleared locally on condition that customs duties will be paid, or that they will be re-exported or delivered to the free zone."

Other provisions under the new law include an increased duty-free allowance for gifts brought by returning travellers (from JD 7 to JD 50); temporary entry for cars belonging to foreigners who work for the government and the continuation of customs exemptions that are granted by the Encouragement of Investment Law.

Special customs exemptions are allowed for government departments, Jordan's universities, municipal and village councils and the civil service and military consumer corporations. These exemptions apply to all goods imported by those beneficiaries "on condition that these imported goods are not included in the approved list of Jordanian industries," Mr. Qdah said. "This will encourage local industry and protect it from foreign competition."

Arab firm plans seminar to promote drug industry

By Joyce Niles
Special to the Star
AMMAN — An international event to be held in Amman next month will offer Jordanian pharmacists some worthwhile alternatives, its organizers say.

The Amman-based Arab Company for Drug Industries and Medical Appliances (ACDIMA) is sponsoring an international symposium, "Drug Industry in the Arab World" at the Amman Marriott Hotel from 5-7 December with a concurrent exhibition of drug products, light industrial equipment and models. Related literature, and posters on drug industries and medical appliances, will also be shown.

The academic programme will include speakers from 12 Arab ministries of health, 22 lecturers from throughout the Arab world, 12 from Europe, and one

from America. Presenting materials through lectures, panel discussions and workshops, they will cover the following topics: Pharmaceuticals in the Arab World, Development and Marketing of Arab Drugs, Quality Control, Natural Resources of Drug Industries (medicinal plants and petrochemicals), The Drug Industries' Experience in the Arab World, Technical Aspects of Project Design and the Technology of Drug Industries.

The products exhibition will be held in the Marriott Hotel and will run from 5-9 December.

Mr. Muoer Al-Jundi, director of finance for ACDIMA and co-ordinator of the symposium, told The Star, "This symposium is open to local pharmacists and pharmacy students for special discount fees (student fee — JD 2). Large groups get a 10 per

cent discount, and representatives of foreign companies may register for \$300."

He added, "We would especially like to see Jordanian pharmacists and students from the universities attending because we would like to encourage them to think of joining the industrial line rather than deal with consumers in opening up more chemist's shops."

Mr. Jundi felt that these pharmacists' valued expertise would be more fully utilised in the growing Arab drug industries. He also expressed an appreciation of the good relationship and co-operation that his firm has with both the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

By holding this symposium ACDIMA hopes to encourage interaction between Arab drug companies and international producers to the benefit of all.

Prices droop

By Mamdouh El-Ghaly

THE SHARES of 61 companies were handled during this week. Forty-four of these registered a share price decrease, while only seven showed slight rises. If this price decrease continues at the same rate the figures at this year's end will amount to a 15 per cent decrease from last year.

The volume of handling was faint despite demand for Islamic Bank shares, which occupied over one-third of the total handling. The share price of the Islamic Bank remained steady.

Over 450,000 shares were handled at a market value of JD 1.18 million divided among 8,663 contracts — a decrease of 14 per cent compared to last week, taking into consideration that week was short one day.

The daily handling average came to JD 30,000 with a deviation of 18.7 per cent around this average, or 4.7 per cent of total. A great deal of this deviation is due to Islamic Bank deals.

Banks

Despite the fact that the share price of all banks and financial companies dropped those banks and companies occupied 78.2 per cent of total handling, an increase of 11 points compared to last week.

Within the banks sector, five out of 17 banks had 73.5 per cent of the sector's handling or 59 per cent of the market total. The Islamic Bank had 43.9 per cent of the sector or 34.3 per cent of total; Bank of Jordan had 10.6/8.3 per cent; Jordan-Gulf Bank 7.4/15.8 per cent; Arab Bank had 7.1/5.5 per cent, and Jordan National Bank 6.5/5.1 per cent.

Industry

Trading in industrial shares accounted for 13.5 per cent of the market: 1.5 points down last week. Four out of 23 companies had 51.9 per cent of sector or 7 per cent of the total.

Jordan Petroleum Refineries Company had 18.4 per cent of sector or 2.5 per cent of total, Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Company 13.7/1.8 per cent; Intermediate Petrochemicals 12.5/1.7 per cent, and Jordan Cement Factories 7.3/1 per cent.

Services

The services sector had 5.8 per cent of the market handling, a decrease of 1.8 points. Two out of eight services companies had 62.4 per cent of the (3.6 per cent of the market total).

The Arab International Hotels Company had 44.1 per cent of the sector (2.5 per cent of the total), and National General Investments had 18.3 per cent (1.1 per cent of total).

Insurance

Insurance had 2.5 per cent of total handling, a decrease of half a point compared to last week. Two out of 11 companies had 44.9 per cent of sector or 1.2 per cent of total. Jordan-Franchise Insurance with 22.6/0.6 per cent and Yarmouk Insurance with 22.3/0.6 per cent.

Among companies showing price increases were Chemical Industries, closing at JD 1,500 up from JD 1,470, and Arab Paper Manufacturing at JD 0,720 up from JD 0,710.

Jordan Securities Corporation closed at JD 2,740 down from JD 2,600; Jordan Finance House at JD 1,050 down from JD 1,110; Arab Detergents at JD 4,000 down from JD 4,190, and Al-Arab Insurance at JD 2,150 down from JD 2,250.

Ten companies showed no change in their share prices. The Star price index at closing time was 340.4, a decrease of 4.7 points or 1.4 per cent. In the over-the-counter market over 290,000 shares were handled at a market value of about JD 220,000.

The weekly record

- A. Companies showing an increase in stock price.
- B. Companies with a price decrease.
- C. The mean record figure.

Egyptian banking business booms

'Open door' policy stimulates capital

By Robert Pouillot
Star Economy Analyst



SIXTY YEARS ago, even Taha Harb, the famous Egyptian industrialist who created Banque Misr, couldn't have dreamed that nearly 80 banks would now be operating along the Nile River, competing fiercely among themselves to unravel new funding opportunities.

It all started on 23 December 1971, when Law 65 was approved to encourage Arab and foreign investments in Egypt. But the legislation was full of contradictions, loopholes and bureaucratic effects and had to be completely redrafted. The second version turned out to be Law 43, issued in June 1974.

The timing couldn't have been better. It came on the eve of the Lebanese civil war, which ripped apart that country's domestic banking scene and practically shut down Beirut as the most important financial centre in the Middle East.

However, Bahrain moved in faster to fill the gap, with its very liberal and flexible offshore banking centre. Bureaucracy, doubtful economic prospects and constantly changing guidelines in Egypt over exchange rates of the pound and the reserve or liquidity ratios of the banks, discouraged many institutions from settling in Cairo.

Yet, the business was there, especially that of managing soaring foreign currency deposits due to the reopening of the Suez Canal, the growing tourist traffic and the surge of remittances by expatriate Egyptians working along the Arabian Peninsula or in Iraq.

Imports, which stood at a mere \$2.3 billion in 1974, took off in a spectacular way. After years of repressed consumer spending, the open door policy meant that Egyptians could now buy anything they liked from abroad.

From 1974 to 1976, purchases from overseas jumped by 65 per cent. Over the next two years, another 76 per cent leap was made. Egypt simply couldn't sustain such an explosion. By 1978, the country's international liquidity, minus gold, were worth \$492 million while imports had reached the record level of \$6.7 billion.

A clampdown was inevitable. A year later, the flow of imports dropped by nearly 50 per cent flat — but they exceeded exports by more than 100 per cent.

That is where banks made most of their money: imports, trade financing, documentary credit and small, though profitable, margins. As imports went down, so did profits.

The new look

Up to last year, events followed the same pattern. From the 1975 cut, the value of imports to Egypt rose steadily again by a further 137 per cent. The main factor was the upward revaluation of oil prices in 1980/81. Still, the pressure was too big on the land of the pharaohs, and a new clampdown had to be made by 1983.

Meanwhile, private investments by foreigners did increase. But the main feature of

this capital injection was its high rate of return, cheap goods (in other words very little real technology transfer) and quick repatriation of funds abroad. The political climate remained too insecure, mainly through the Camp David process and the assassination of President Sadat, to warrant any long-term and heavy commitment in Egypt. In addition, bureaucracy has remained extremely heavy and little innovation was added to the original Law 43.

Last but not least, Egypt was at a great disadvantage vis-à-vis Bahrain. On one hand, offshore bank units in the Gulf state were operating in a relatively free environment just across from the largest of all Opec money spinners, Saudi Arabia. Secondly, the boycott against Egypt following its peace treaty with Israel dampened seriously all financial flows between Cairo and the rest of the Arab world.

In 1979 for instance, the newly reformed Central Bank tried to test the Eurodollar market on its own, to establish its international credit rating. The large Paris-based Union des Banques Arabes et Françaises (UBAF), together with three other consortia, the European Arab Bank, the Arab African International Bank and the Arab International Bank, banded with four European institutions to arrange a \$300 million loan. At the eleventh hour, however, the loan had to be cancelled following boycott pressure exerted by Iraq, Libya and Algeria.

Citibank has also tried its best to syndicate another \$110 million loan for four DCIOs purchased by Egyptair, but that also failed.

A star: Arab African

The only Egyptian institution (though with only 43 per cent local control) which has succeeded in keeping its head above water was the Arab African International Bank, which ranks among the 15 most active Arab banks on the Eurocredit market-place. From April 1977 to June 1983, it participated in \$527 million worth of deals, though with very little Arab input as far as borrowers are concerned. Its game was to borrow on the inter-bank deposits theatre and lend at higher rates to international borrowers.

On the domestic front, the palm goes to the Iranian-Egyptian joint venture of the Misr Iran Development Bank, established in 1975. It was, and remains, among the handful of Egyptian institutions capable of assessing and building up local investment projects. It performed so well, as a matter of fact, that the World Bank banded out to the venture \$30 million to invest in Egyptian development schemes.

Since then, a number of other merchant banks have made their appearance on the Cairo front. These include the Faysal Islamic Bank of Egypt and the International Islamic Bank for Investment and Development. With these, taken together with the Nasser Social Bank and an increasing amount of banks opening "Islamic counters or branches" such as Misr and Bank of

Credit and Commerce International, competition for sound and bankable projects has soared.

This factor alone, with a major change in attitude towards Egypt by the rest of the Arab World, is now altering in a sharp way the whole fabric of the banking scene in Cairo.

New environment

First, the drop in import flows is forcing banks to revalue their positions and take a hard look at investment opportunities in the republic. Furthermore, equity holdings paved the way for new loan deals — and that is important in a country where the rate of cash hoarding (money escaping the banking system) has dropped spectacularly since Law 43 was adopted. From over half of the country's money stock by the M2 measure including cash, demand and time deposits, cash in circulation is now down to a third. It means that the public injected \$4.5 billion more in the banking system than it would have under the old hoarding system of the early 1970s, thus forcing institutions to relent at least 65 per cent of such a total under the current banking regulations.

Not only is there more indigenous money to lend in Egypt, but outside borrowers are now ready to open their coffers once more.

Late last year, Chase Manhattan Bank, which controls 49 per cent of Chase National Bank in joint venture with the National Bank of Egypt, set up a \$200 million standing credit for Egypt. It eased five years of absence from the international capital markets. And ironically enough, the co-managers included two major consortia banks which had pulled out from the 1979 \$300 million loan attempt by the Central Bank, UBAF and Arab African International Bank. The other institution involved was the United Gulf Bank. "We were a touch apprehensive about dealing with Egypt after so long," said a Chase officer, "but there were no problems at all."

The final terms of the deal were hammered out in less than a month.

Under such a new domestic and international environment, Egypt is set to bolster its capital market. The only remaining bolt to add to the system is to revamp the country's stock exchanges in Cairo and Alexandria. The first step was taken in 1979, when the Capital Market Authority (CMA) was established. An agreement was made with France to train staff and advise in improving communications links, including a closed circuit television network, telex and modern telephone equipment.

In 1961, the stock exchange in Cairo listed 12 government bonds, 24 banks and 236 companies. Twenty years later, the total had dwindled to eight government bonds, 28 mixed government-private companies, 25 commercial firms and only eight joint-stock investment companies. Yet, the number has increased significantly since and brand-new markets may shape up within the next three years.

economy

Contracts & Contacts

New move to direct clients

THE ANNOUNCEMENT by the Prime Ministry that firms from countries which import Jordanian potash and phosphates should get priority in tender awards comes on top of a series of efforts to direct government tendering policy, mainly to promote local contractors. Earlier this week Prime Minister Badrao had stressed that local firms should be given an equal chance with foreigners when bidding for contracts, and that design specifications should avoid including particular brand names when generic descriptions specified materials can be used.

The Public Works Ministry has been engaged in preparing legislation that would require all government contracts under JD 2 million to go to local firms. In July the Prime Ministry issued a directive making its approval mandatory for all contracts over JD 4 million. The new legislation would also require the foreign firms to tender in joint venture with locals while prequalifying separately, among other things.

Tenders out for school project

THE EDUCATION Ministry invites First and Second-Class contractors, along with firms from World Bank member countries, Switzerland and Taiwan, to tender for the construction of a girls' secondary vocational school in Russeifa, total area 7,700 square metres. Details for JD 150 from the ministry's Project Implementation Unit, Amman (tel. 669181). Closing date: 25 December.

Swedes study poultry project

THE "FOREIGN firm" which was awarded a contract in October to provide consultancy services for a Supply Ministry poultry slaughterhouse project has been identified as Agriconsult of Sweden. The slaughterhouse is to be located in Duleil, near Zarqa. Agriconsult is to submit its initial report in two months, after which it will take about six months to prepare tender documents, a ministry official says.

Air Force launches tender

The Royal Jordanian Air Force seeks insurance firms to bid for the provision of comprehensive insurance for its training, transport and passenger aircraft. The insurance contract is to cover the calendar year 1984. Details from the Air Forces chief of accounts. Closing Date: 5 December.

THE ARMED Forces seek contractors in First and Second Classes to construct a building in Amman. Details for JD 20, from the Royal Corps of Engineers. New Closing Date: 22 November.

THE UNIVERSITY of Jordan issues two tenders: No. 111 for the supply of microcomputers, and No. 112 for teaching equipment in the Faculty of Sciences. Details for JD 10 (No. 111) and JD 5 (No. 112) from the university's tenders committee. Closing Date: 12 December.

PIPING: Installation of water pipeline to the second Aqaba housing project and to floating pier reservoir. Details available to registered contractors for JD 30, from the Aqaba Port Corporation. Closing Date: 5 December.

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The coming old-age pension crunch

State social security schemes seek speedy solutions soon

TIME AND again, warnings are sounded that some of the major national pension schemes are precariously propped up on borrowed money, that they are on the verge of bankruptcy and that next year's cheques may not be paid.

These dire predictions have not yet come true, but with pension costs skyrocketing in most advanced industrialised countries, the danger signals are loud and clear.

In the United States, for instance, expenditure on the Federal Old Age, Survivors' and Disability Pension Schemes (OASD) has risen sharply, from \$69,000 million in 1975 to \$143,000 million in 1981 and an estimated \$160,000 million last year. In the Federal Republic of Germany, similar outlay showed an increase of over 800 per cent in 20 years, from DM 17,000 million in 1960 to DM 134,000 million in 1980. The French National Old Age Insurance Fund for Employees paid out FF. 85,000 million 1980, or FF. 20,000 million more than just two years.

Three factors

"Pension provisions account for more than half of total social security expenditure in many countries," says Giovanni Tamburi, Chief of the ILO's Social Security Department. "But three factors hold out the daunting prospect of a steady escalation of pension costs in the years to come."

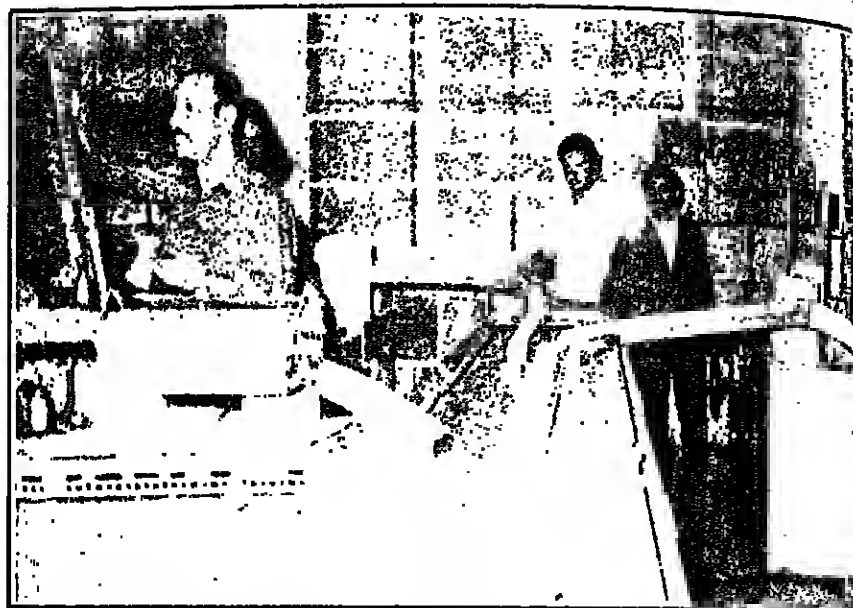
Maturing of schemes: Most current state pension programmes were established after the Second World War. Since then, the ranks of retired people have kept rising steadily and so have pension costs. The "maturing of schemes" is expected to go on well into the next century. But the financial burden will be much heavier than originally expected because of demographic change and major improvements in protection that have taken place. The number of pensions awarded increases every year faster than the number of pensions terminated, and the average amount of awards tend to grow because of longer average period of contributions, Mr. Tamburi explains.

Population ageing: The proportion of people aged 60 or more in the total population has been increasing steadily in many industrialised countries. In 1980 it stood at 21.9 per cent in Sweden, 18.8 per cent in West Germany, 17 per cent in France, 15.6 per cent in the United States and 12.6 per cent in Japan. Between now and the year 2000 population greying will continue at different speeds and its impact will be especially felt in Western Europe, North America and Japan.

Give now, pay later: The sheer size of a modern state pension scheme precludes the financing of its core by any means other than a "pay-as-you-go" method. But the generation taking the political responsibility for setting the level of pension benefits will not be around to take the less popular measures needed to pay for them.

To put it in very simple terms, pay-as-you-go must be seen in the light of the fact that elected politicians like to spend but do not like to increase taxation. Similarly, individual citizens like to benefit from the spending and dislike higher taxes," Mr. Tamburi observes.

This "give now, pay later" approach may put future solvency of pension funds in jeopardy for the simple reason that the ratio of "oldsters" to the active working force is rising irreversibly. Example: for every Japanese now over 65 there are roughly seven people at work. By 2015, that will fall to an average of 2.5 people at work for every old-age pensioner.



Jordanian factory workers: How secure is their future?

The combined effect of these factors would result in cost escalation even in prosperous times, but then one could rely on increased resources to take the strain. However, with the current recession trouble builds up on a number of fronts.

Large-scale unemployment spells immediate losses of revenue for national pension schemes. Thus in the United States it is estimated that an increase of 1 per cent in joblessness results in a loss of \$2 billion for the programme.

The withdrawal of older workers from the labour force through induced or voluntary retirement means that more pensions have to be paid sooner than was foreseen and for longer periods.

In the same way any systematic lowering of the pensionable age to help create jobs sharply increases outlays on pensions. The trend towards a shorter working life — a commendable objective in most cases — imposes heavier burdens on the working population.

Moreover, when the economy is unhealthy supplementary resources for pension provision are difficult to mobilise, cause most governments cut their expenditures to reduce budget deficits and inflation.

So what are the options? Higher contributions? Borrowing from the treasury? Privatisation of social security? Large deficits ahead? Only the future will tell, or if the problem can be solved.

Yet the livelihood of too many beings is so directly and inexorably dependent upon the success of state pension schemes that the search for sound and viable solutions must be pursued," Tamburi urges.

There is no doubt that the state has to continue to play the dominant role in providing basic pension coverage. Less important, however, will be the readiness of the individual to contribute to the pension system, whether to pay for his own or, unlikely, for his partner's old age pension," Mr. Tamburi concludes.

(ILO file)

Saudis study plans for buying world oil marketing network

WASHINGTON (OPECNA) — Saudi Arabia is considering the purchase of an international marketing network to sell oil products from its new refineries, according to Ahmad Zaki Yamani, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources.

He said in an interview with the "New York Times" that the plan was under "serious study".

Mr. Ghazi Al-Gosailbi, Saudi Industry Minister, was also reported to have confirmed the proposal, similar to steps already taken by other oil exporters. In February, the Kuwait National Petroleum Corporation paid about \$150 million to buy Gulf Oil's marketing operations in Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands.

Sheikh Yamani confirmed that Saudi Arabia was selling some of its extra oil through a company established in Switzerland on a "one-shot basis". But he denied reports that the company, Norbec, had been set up to enable Saudi Arabia to secretly sell more oil than its share under Opec production arrangements.

He said Saudi Arabia produced less than 5 million b/d during the third quarter of this year. Currently, the kingdom was producing more, but the excess oil was being stored "at considerable cost, and not being sold."

Sheikh Yamani said Saudi Arabia was forced to pump more oil than it could sell because the

country required large quantities of associated gas.

He pointed out that several of the new petrochemical and other industries set up at the Jubail and Yanbu industrial complexes were gas-fuelled.

The minister denied reports from industry and diplomatic sources in Jeddah that Saudi Arabia had been pressing Exxon, Mobil, Texaco and Standard Oil of California, its partners in Aramco, to pump more oil, and that their reluctance to do so was creating tensions.

He also disagreed with oil analysts, who claimed that large Saudi investments in developing oil refineries were of questionable wisdom.

"Our new refineries have a cheap source of energy and are far more modern and efficient than their European counterparts."

He acknowledged that Saudi Arabia was facing potential marketing difficulties, one of the reasons for considering the purchase of an overseas sales network.

Sheikh Yamani predicted that oil prices, depressed by the current worldwide petroleum surplus, would gradually start climbing again.

"Oil is so valuable, and it will become even more valuable very soon," he added. Meanwhile, Libya is set to join the growing

number of Arab oil producers who are challenging refiners' highly competitive European oil market, according to reports.

In April, Libya will bring a stream a new 220,000 b/d refinery at Ras Al-Unuf, with production mainly directed westward.

Libyan oil industry officials are at present visiting several European countries to seek sales from the new plant, near Tripoli, which will probably be used to supply naphtha, gas and fuel oil.

Refinery production capacity in the Middle East and North Africa is expected to increase 108 per cent in 1990, to 10.8 million tons a year from 10 million tons in 1980, according to a recent study by British energy consultants.

Taking into account domestic consumption, the area should have about 121 million tons of oil products available for export by the end of the decade, with Libya's share estimated at 10 million tons.

Oil analysts say with large supplies of Middle East and North African products likely to be offered to European buyers next year, spot market prices and European refinery earnings will be heavily affected. They claim the ports could cause a further deterioration in an already depressed market.

Britain contemplates US retaliation in Lebanon

In the wake of attacks on the MNF

By Len Rockingham
Star London Correspondent

LONDON — The government of Mrs. Thatcher as one of the most loyal allies of the Reagan Administration, now finds itself in a number of dilemmas. And these include not only Grenada but also the Middle East and the issue of nuclear weapons.

On the Middle East, there is a very strong concern in London that the Americans may be preparing for some punitive action against Syria, which they see as being behind the recent suicide bomb attacks on American, French and Israeli military headquarters in Lebanon. British officials realise that, for American political reasons, some sort of retaliation is inevitable, but if it becomes a joint American-Israeli action then it could have serious consequences for Western policy in the Arab world. If this were to happen, it is almost certain that Britain, in collaboration with France and other European governments, would feel the need to distance itself from American policy — possibly to the extent of withdrawing the British contingent to the multinational force from Lebanon.

Britain is therefore using all its diplomatic skills to try to dissuade the Americans from any rash action in the Middle East, while at the same time doing as much as it can to keep in close contact with moderate Arab opinion, including moderate Palestinian opinion. The recent visit to the Middle East by the Foreign Office Minister, Mr. Richard Luce, was important in this respect (even though Mr. Luce was prevented by the Israelis from meeting prominent PLO supporters on the occupied West Bank). Other British ministers, including the secretaries of state for defence and trade, will be visiting Arab countries in the next month.

Last week, Mrs. Thatcher received the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Pierre Trudeau, and clearly some of their discussions were concerned with the danger-

ous situation in the Middle East. But Mr. Trudeau's main concern was to try to achieve some break-through in the stalemate between East and West over nuclear weapons. Mrs. Thatcher has clear views about this. She believes that American "cruise" and Pershing missiles should be deployed in Western Europe, including Britain, unless the Soviet Union indicates its willingness at the Geneva arms reduction talks to scale down its own missiles. This seems highly unlikely, and so Mr. Trudeau's mission to London was not a success. With the first American missiles due to be arrived in Britain in a matter of weeks, if not days, this has become a highly sensitive political issue for Mrs. Thatcher.

Her other worry at the moment is the Commonwealth reaction to the American intervention in Grenada. Later this month, Mrs. Thatcher will be attending the summit of Commonwealth leaders in New Delhi, where Grenada is bound to figure large in the talks. Her attitude of criticising the Americans for sending in troops will probably win her some support among many Commonwealth leaders — certainly, she would have faced a barrage of criticism if she had openly supported the American action, as some of her conservative colleagues would have liked.

But, now that some of the dust has settled, the British government believes that what was done in the Caribbean is over and done with. What is likely to happen next, particularly in the Middle East, is of much greater importance. Hence, Mrs. Thatcher's concern that Grenada should not diminish any influence she may still have in Washington to persuade the Americans that it is in everybody's interests for them to tread cautiously in the Middle East.

Mrs. Thatcher is also reported to have written to President Reagan in the past week assuring him that the special relationship between Britain and the United States is still very much alive, and that any suggestion that it is weakened is "largely a creation of the press".

What Israel hopes to get from a divided PLO

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel does not expect the downfall of Mr. Yasser Arafat to relax its 20-year blood feud with the Palestinians. But some analysts predict long-range benefits for Israel.

Officially, Israel portrays itself as indifferent to the fate of the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization. "One terrorist is like another," said a government official. "They all want to destroy Israel. The essence, the character of the PLO is not changing."

Israel has never accepted the image of Mr. Arafat as a moderate. Few Israelis weep for the man they blame for the outrages of the 1972 Munich Olympics and the Lod airport massacres, for countless assaults across Israel's borders, for bombings, hijackings and assassinations.

In recent years they have been concerned at Mr. Arafat's success in gaining legitimacy for his cause in the West. To Israelis who remember World War II, the analogy that comes to mind is the appeasement of Hitler at Munich in 1938.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir has said that any internal dispute that weakens the PLO can only be good for Israel. But no government leader has spoken out since the battle erupted in Tripoli, Lebanon, between PLO dissidents and Arafat loyalists.

Government and military analysts say the showdown in Tripoli has brought no relief from attacks on Israeli troops in South Lebanon. Although Israel did not pinpoint responsibility for the blast, it sent its warplanes on retaliatory strikes against PLO bases in Syrian-controlled Lebanon in keeping with its policy that the PLO is the root of all terrorism.

Israelis say the only clear outcome of the Tripoli battle is that the PLO will emerge under Syrian domination, whether Arafat leads it or someone else. The hope is that in either case, Tripoli will be a death blow for the PLO's clout in the Arab world and in the West. "It's Arafat's last stand, and that means the PLO is going to

be under Syria's control," Aharon Yariv, a former military intelligence chief who heads the Israel Institute for Strategic Studies, told a news conference Monday.

Yariv said the Syrians have shown in the past that they can stop guerrilla activity, but he admitted he did not know how active a Syrian-dominated PLO will be.

"You can never know how the Syrians want to play the game," said a government official. He repeated the government's claim that Syria had something to do with the Tyre explosion, and probably would sponsor such actions in the future.

Many Israeli experts expect Arafat to get out of Tripoli alive, either by striking a deal with the Syrians or by slipping out by sea.

"The best thing that can happen for us is that the PLO is taken over by a man installed by Syria and who is seen clearly as a Syrian stooge," said Daniel Dishon, of the Shiloah Research Institute of Tel Aviv University.

He said in an interview that a Syrian-ruled PLO would lose its grip on Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories, who have been demonstrating in support of Arafat and in condemnation of Syria. The PLO's influence also would ebb in Western capitals, he said.

Mr. Arafat's escape might deepen the confusion in the Arab world and elsewhere over who speaks for the Palestinians, he added.

Another Middle East expert, Gabi Ben-Dor, told Israel radio that he expected Arafat to remain a dominant figure on the world scene if he leaves Tripoli alive. Arafat, he said, is a household name and a useful tool for whoever wants to control what is left of the PLO after the battle for Tripoli. Any one of Syria's enemies will want to use this tool.

The Israelis claim a certain measure of credit for the crumbling of the PLO, saying for their invasion of Lebanon last year was a blow from which the PLO may never fully recover.



Thatcher and Reagan: Special Anglo-American relationship still holds.

It is as well that the prime minister got her message in quickly for last Sunday in an advertisement in the "New York Times", a number of prominent Britons assured the president that they endorsed his action by sending troops to the Caribbean island of Grenada to overthrow the

Island's marxist rulers. The hundred and ten signatories to the advertisement included many prominent conservative members of parliament and the whole exercise looked very much like an apology for Mrs. Thatcher's criticisms of the American intervention in Grenada.

IN BRIEF

Israel warns demonstrators

TEL AVIV — The Israeli army co-ordinator for the West Bank and Gaza Lt. Col. Benjamin Eliezer has warned that Israeli soldiers would continue to react with a firm hand against stone-throwing demonstrators in the area. The warning came after the imposition of curfew on three Palestinian refugee camps in the occupied West Bank. The curfew was imposed as a result of violent demonstrations in several parts of the West Bank in support of PLO leader Mr. Yasser Arafat. Two Palestinian youths were killed in one incident in the town of Tulkeram.

Palestinians make peace efforts

ROSH HANIKRA — Mr. Mohammed Naser, a Palestinian from Hebron has accused the Israeli authorities of deliberately fanning the efforts of his supporters to persuade West Bank representatives to enter into direct negotiations with Israel to find a peaceful solution to the Palestinian problem. Addressing members of kibbutz Mr. Naser, a former Village League leader said the conflict between Mr. Yasser Arafat and PLO dissidents has relieved many people in the West Bank from the fear of PLO retribution if they negotiate with Israel.

Israel lauds trading with Egypt

HAIFA — Relations between Israeli and Egyptian fuel authorities are more than satisfactory. The Israeli fuel commissioner Mr. Shimon Gilboa was reported to have said. He expressed confidence in the Egyptians saying "they are reliable suppliers and Israel is an important client for them". Mr. Gilboa said however that Israel had learned from experience not to put all its faith in one supplier.

No increase in fees

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — The Israeli Deputy Minister of Housing Mr. Moshe Katsav who headed a committee that fixed university tuition fees has said the fees will not be increased during this academic year. Mr. Katsav was speaking at a Knesset Education Committee session on the current controversy over tuition. The chairman of the Haifa University Students Union Mr. Mushe over tuition. The chairman of the Haifa University Students Union Mr. Mushe over tuition. The chairman of the Haifa University Students Union Mr. Mushe over tuition.

Hotels accused of overbooking

TEL AVIV — Tourism agents in the United States have expressed concern about the incidence of large scale overbooking of hotels in Israel. They say this leaves many newly arrived tourists stranded. The agents also complained that despite advertised prices, several hotels have raised their rates. Groups of tourists who arrive Jerusalem late at night wander out of the city in search of kibbutz guest houses after having been turned out of their reserved rooms.



Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens visits Israeli soldiers along the Awali River line in Southern Lebanon

Egypt fears Syria-Israel war

By Patrick Seale

CAIRO — The Egyptian government is intensely worried that Israel will strike at Syria — or at least at Syrian forces in the Bekaa Valley — in retaliation for the recent attack on the Israeli military headquarters in Tyre.

Senior officials believe Israel may also want to get even for the political damage Syria has inflicted on the Israel-Lebanon accord at the Lebanese talks in Geneva. The fear is that any Israeli reprisals could easily escalate into a full-scale Syrian-Israeli war. Officials point to current Israeli mobilisation exercises — the highest in five years — as indicating a high level of preparedness.

Two trends are being watched very closely here. The first derives from Egypt's reading of the current mood in Washington. Egypt's ambassador, Ashraf Ghorbal, is believed to be reporting that Washington is more and more inclined to contemplate using Israeli power to check what is seen as growing Syrian — and Soviet — influence in the region.

Some top Egyptians are even convinced that the United States would like a change of regime in Damascus and is prepared to pay the price in terms of increased military and economic aid to Israel. So, far from restraining Israel, the US may actually encourage it to act.

A second trend, alarming to the government, stems from its reading of developments in Israel itself (and Israel watching is a highly developed science here). The Egyptian conclusion is that a lot of influential Israelis now believe war with Israel is inevitable.

The only alternative would be to see a steady erosion of Israeli influence, not only through sniping and car bombs in Lebanon, but through Syria's tightening

grip on Lebanon's political life and on the Palestinians.

According to Egyptian reading of Israeli thinking, if President Assad of Syria is not checked soon, he may be in a position to demand concessions from the US, and from a future Israeli government, not only in Lebanon but on the Golan Heights and on the West Bank as well. The visit to Israel by US Under-Secretary of State Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger is seen here as intensifying US-Israeli strategic co-operation, and in particular co-ordinating strategy against Syria. Mr. Eagleburger, a former aide of Dr. Henry Kissinger in the Nixon White House, is thought to share his mentor's belief in the present need to cut Syria down to size and see off the Soviets, a view believed to be warmly endorsed by Israel's Premier Yitzhak Shamir.

But for Egypt these proposed courses of action spell nothing but dreadful embarrassment. It is a recurring Egyptian nightmare that its US patrons and Israeli treaty partners will join forces in military operations against an Arab state, painfully exposing Egypt's position half way between the Arab world and Israel.

The first lesson Egyptian officials draw is that Israeli influence in Washington remains very great. The second is that Egypt's own appropriations budget, \$1.3 billion in military aid this year and another one billion in civil assistance, might be cut if it were to do anything Israel could interpret as a breach of their peace treaty.

Egypt's frustration results from its lack of direct leverage over either of the two great conflicts in the region — the Iraq-Iran war and the Syrian-Israeli tussle over Lebanon. Its fear is that either conflict could drag Egypt in at a time and under conditions not of its choosing.

Observer News Service

'The Palestinians are a people'

By Carrie Nolle Thompson

ATLANTA — There is belief that the Carter/Ford Middle East consultation that ended in this city has established a precedent in Arab/Israeli/American history.

For what appears to be the very first time, scholarly, knowledgeable, educated individuals representing virtually every faction of thinking regarding this extremely volatile question have openly discussed and questioned in a completely open forum to which the public was admitted on a first come-first serve basis.

What made this conference unique beyond the expectations of many is that the majority of both participants and observers have openly acknowledged the rights of the Palestinian people, including that of self-determination. (It must be pointed out, however, that there was disagreement as to whether this phrase may be interpreted to mean the right to a totally independent state.) Nevertheless, a large American audience at a conference chaired by two former presidents and addressed by renowned men who in every way

presented themselves as being pro-Palestinians, was something considered by many to be unknown until this time.

There were many Israelis who attended the conference as observers. The facts that were presented, in every case were 1) The Palestinians are a people 2) They do exist 3) They have no home 4) This is legally recognized by the world as theirs 4) They will disappear 5) They have been sorely mistreated both as human beings and a world citizens 6) The Palestinian problem is the crux of the Middle East conflict 7) A solution must be found 8) Israel no longer enjoys its absolute pedestal position in the United States of America.

The significance of such US leaders as Mr. Cyrus Vance and Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, solemnly condemning "Israeli expansionism and settlement policies" can not go unnoticed, even though they do not presently occupy positions in the government. Likewise, these same sentiments voiced by two former presidents were signs of the growing change in American thought.

America needs Pakistan's support in the Gulf, Lebanon

By John Stokes

ISLAMABAD (ONS) — There are clear signs that the American Administration is continuing to support President Zia's battered military regime because the US needs Pakistani support in both Lebanon and the Gulf, as well as in continuing to reject peace feelers from the Russians to settle the Afghanistan crisis.

When the US Defence Secretary, Casper Weinberger, recently visited Islamabad, there was much speculation here as to whether the Americans would continue to support the Zia regime, which is under pressure from the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy.

Immediately after the visit Newsweek magazine reported that the CIA had sent more agents to prop up the regime. News agencies in the Gulf reported at the same time that Zia had told American reporters that the US strengthening of Pakistan and Gulf countries will go a long way in creating stability in the region rather than depending on the Rapid Deployment Force, in case it is required for the defence of the Gulf.

Officials here privately admit the Americans would want to use the Pakistan navy to back up the American flotilla in the Gulf should Iraq try to block the strategic Strait of Hormuz. Pakistani ports like Karachi and Gawadar would clearly be needed for logistical back up of any serious naval engagements in the Gulf by the Americans. Moreover, according to other reliable sources, Mr. Weinberger told Gen. Zia the Americans may ask for Pakistani troops in the Lebanon if a new multinational force is formed there to keep the peace.

Recently Pakistani air and army personnel on secondment to the armies of the Gulf states and Saudi Arabia took part in military manoeuvres organised by the Gulf Co-operation Council. Pakistan's unique position in the region is that it has a role in both the American Rapid Deployment Force and in the Arab Co-operation Council military commitment policies.

The Americans appear keen to bolster Zia's continued hold on power. The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, on the other hand, says it will start talks with the Russians if it gets power. The MRD has been bitterly opposed to continued Pakistani ties with the Americans, especially in the Middle East.

The Americans want us to be the policemen of the region when we have many pressing internal problems of our own," said one MRD leader.

Most Pakistanis opposed to the Zia regime consider American policies in the Middle East as aimed at the annihilation of the Palestinians, for whom there is much sympathy in Pakistan. Zia's policies are considered by the MRD to be disastrous for Pakistan and designed only to keep the army in the seat of power. American flags along with effigies of Zia have been burnt in Sindh, where the MRD is strongest, and there is growing Americanism in the country despite the fact that many MRD leaders are big landlords who are not anti-American by nature.

Russian radio broadcasts are also being used to fuel the movement for change. It is clearly if Zia steps too far into the American camp at a time when he has little support in his own country, "he could hang himself with his own rope," said one opposition leader. The MRD is in touch with the West for continuing to support Gen. Zia. Its leaders claim that at the moment Zia loses support from the West, his regime will crumble.

Four licensed liquor importers' offices and their liquor stores have been moved out of Sharjah City and housed in one complex in the port area, with police guards to check customers' liquor permits. The aim was to put a stop to alcohol sales in restaurants where Arabs had been drinking in defiance of Islamic tenets and local law.

In enjoining his partial ban, Sheikh Sultan made it obligatory on the courts, trying persons under the influence of alcohol, to apply the Islamic Sharia law. Punishment under this law, which will be applied to local Arabs, and Muslims of whatever nationality, is flogging in a public place and a fine or imprisonment.

In the case of non-Muslim expatriates, accused people would continue to be tried by the ordinary criminal courts, which usually impose a heavy fine — and deportation in drink-driving cases. Since the Sharjah decree, 15 Muslims have been convicted by Sharia courts. Each was given 80 lashes, witnessed by a large crowd in a public square.

Although town councils in the other emirates have yet to decide whether to follow Sharjah's lead, importers of liquor confidently rule out the possibility of a total ban. They say such a move would badly hit the economy.



Sheikh Sultan Bin Muhammad Al Qasbi

According to one importer, the UAE imported alcoholic beverages from 37 countries around the world valued at \$32 million in 1981 and \$31.1 million in 1982. The customs duty was around 10 per cent which, importers say, is a small revenue for the exchequer.

The United Kingdom topped the list of liquor sales with whisky and gin as the most popular. The Netherlands was third with brandy. The fact that the UAE has a large number of expatriates, many of whom are Muslims, is a factor in the decision to ban alcohol. The authorities continue to renew expressions of concern over the sale of liquor to Muslims, who are forbidden to drink.

There may, however, be moves to raise the salary level on which the quota for alcohol purchases is fixed. At present it is 100,000 Dirhams, an applicant has to produce evidence that his salary is at least \$1,400, which secures him a liquor licence for \$140.

Observer News Service

VIEWPOINT

The genuine requirement for peace

By Ya'acoub Jaber

FORMER US Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford deserve many thanks for the seminar on the Palestinian question which they organized at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia last week. The debate at the seminar, and the brilliant remarks put forward by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan before an elite group of American intellectuals and former policy-makers can contribute to a better understanding of the Arab point of view among Americans.

There is no doubt that such activity by noted American figures like Messrs. Carter and Ford represents a lively presence of the Palestinian people's plight in the American subconscious; if not reflecting a sense of guilt resulting from the US failure to do anything of substance to alleviate the Palestinians' distress and check Israel's mounting extremism.

The seminar, however, has had rather an unusual ending. For instead of demanding US action to put an end to the Israeli occupation of the Palestinian and Arab territories within a just peace settlement, President Carter called on the Arabs not to expect a change in the American commitment to Israel and to solve the problem through negotiations with Tel Aviv.

Mr. Carter's remark sounded like an apology for America's inability to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict on an even-handed basis. The former president has had the personal experience to support his gloomy assessment. Yet what he said was not the whole truth. For Mr. Carter should have explained the futility of negotiations with Israel in the absence of effective US pressure which, under the present circumstances, is the sole available way to bring about a successful conclusion to any peaceful effort.

Mr. Carter certainly remembers how, under his administration, the Palestinian autonomy talks between Egypt, Israel and the US dragged on for years without achieving an inch of progress, mainly because of Israel's determination to foil them and America's unwillingness to use its leverage on Tel Aviv to force a change of attitude.

If that is what happened during the Carter administration, which openly declared that settlements in the occupied territories were illegal and cared about human rights violations, how much must we expect from the present administration, which says that the settlements are merely an obstacle to peace and has forged a strategic alliance with Israel?

This is by no means an attempt to discourage peace negotiations in the Middle East. It is simply a reminder that any meaningful negotiations should be conducted under new conditions created, basically by a major change in US policies and tactics. In other words, the success of any future peace negotiations will depend on heavy US pressure on Israel since it is the party which occupies the land and has the US-supplied military might to maintain the occupation and deny the Palestinians' rights.

The only alternative to US pressure is an Israeli defeat in a major military battle. The Arabs at present are too divided to inflict a defeat or even think of the war option. But neither Israel nor the United States can guarantee the future, except perhaps through peace. The Arabs are not yet ready for a prolonged fight. But it is bound to come if the present stalemate continues.

There may, however, be moves to raise the salary level on which the quota for alcohol purchases is fixed. At present it is 100,000 Dirhams, an applicant has to produce evidence that his salary is at least \$1,400, which secures him a liquor licence for \$140.

Observer News Service

Middle East Editorial Opinion

Akbar Al-Yom, an Egyptian weekly, this week writes that the Arab nation will never accept the liquidation of the PLO, because this means an end to the Palestinians' heroic struggle throughout the past 35 years.

"Throughout these years, the Palestinians never bowed their heads to the ferocious attempts to liquidate their cause, and continued their armed struggle in the face of tremendous obstacles. The Arab people will never allow this heroic struggle to be turned into past history before it achieves its legitimate goals," writes the Egyptian weekly.

The Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Qabas writes that at the end of the fighting in north Lebanon is a Palestinian as well as an Arab and an international responsibility. It says that all Arab states without exception should exert maximum effort, individually or collectively, to secure a final settlement to the PLO crisis.

"Putting an end to the crisis is also the responsibility of the foreign powers who support the Palestinian legitimacy. The Soviet Union thus holds additional responsibility towards settling the crisis," the paper explains.

Al-Rai Al-Aam, another Kuwaiti newspaper, calls on Palestinian fighters in north Lebanon to disobey their commanders' orders to shoot at each other. It says that the fighters can defy their commanders by arguing that their primary duty is to shoot at the Israeli enemy.

Al-Roya, a Qatari newspaper, writes that when Yasser Arafat declared that the battle of Tripoli was the most ferocious and violent battle faced by the Palestinians, he meant the political battle and not the military one.

"It is the battle of the Palestinian decision and its independence as well as the battle of Palestinian legitimacy and PLO unity," the paper explains.

It goes on to say that not one single Arab nationalist accepts the current attempt to abort the Palestinian revolution and undermine its legitimacy, because the success of such an attempt would only serve the goals of the US-Israeli strategic alliance.

Narrow Interests

Al-Raya warns against manipulation of the Palestinian question by some parties for their own narrow interests, saying that it is not the cause of an individual, a community or one state but one that concerns the whole Arab nation.

On reports about a possible US military strike in Lebanon, the North Yemen newspaper Al-Tawar, calls for efforts to convene an Arab summit conference as early as possible to tackle the huge challenges, especially in the light of US threats to carry a military action in collaboration with Israel. It adds that the summit would have positive effect on the explosive situation in Lebanon and on the areas of the Iraq-Iran war.

"The success of Arab efforts in defusing the situation on both the Palestinian and Lebanese fronts would constitute a major incentive for Arab leaders to intensify their endeavours to remove all causes of tension in the Arab world," writes the North Yemen paper.

The newspaper Al-Gomhooriya of Egypt warns the United States against using the deteriorating situation in the region as a pretext to deal a military strike at Syria or at Lebanon's nationalist force. It calls on America instead to promote peace prospects by forcing Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and Lebanon, and by finding a solution to the Palestinian problem.

Referring to President Hosni Mubarak's statement before parliament in which he said that Egypt would not accept aggression on any Arab state, the paper notes that the deliberate vagueness of the American stance towards the possibility of a new war in the region causes grave concern in Egypt and other Arab states. It warns that moderate Arab states may be forced to adopt moderate stands if an



Arab state comes under an attack in which the US participates.

Jordanian press

Ad-Dustar newspaper in Amman writes that the demonstrations in the occupied Arab territories, in support of the PLO's legitimate leadership, were also a manifestation of the Palestinian population's condemnation of Libyan, Syrian and rebel PLO attacks on Yasser Arafat and his leadership. It adds that the Palestinians in the occupied land defied Israeli oppression and took to the streets to assert that Mr. Arafat's leadership is the symbol of their struggle against the occupying enemy.

"The attitude of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza can be regarded as a public plebiscite in favour of Arafat's leadership and in condemnation of those trying to wreck the Palestinian legitimacy," the paper asserts.

Al-Rai newspaper praises the national cohesion and responsibility displayed by Jordanians towards the security and stability of their country.

The paper bitterly attacks the criminal attempt to sabotage the security of Jordan and undermine its national unity. It says the citizens' vigilance and deep sense of responsibility have foiled these attempts, and sooner or later, the people behind them will be caught and brought to justice.

Israel comment

In Israel, Al-Hamishmar newspaper comments that new taxes imposed by the government run contrary to the country's socialist ideals, especially the education and health taxes.

The education tax of 700 shekels monthly makes Israel the first and last country in the world in which preliminary education is subject to tax. It is for the public in general to pay the education tax through other taxes they pay to the state, hence the imposition of the education tax is likely to shake the very foundations of the state, the paper says.

As all people pay for health insurance, there is no justification to pay extra charges for health services. Those taxes are neither fair nor effective and they do not serve any of the economic targets referred to by the new finance minister.

Yadlet Aharonot says the new taxes are a violation of principle. "A decade ago it was decided that taxes must not exceed 60 per cent in any circumstances," the paper writes. Raising taxes cannot substitute for an economic programme but is a means to settle deficit. High-income categories like dentists will not be cutting their working day short and will have motives to cancel their income, Yadlet says.

Monitin criticises the Israeli forces remaining in Lebanon, saying they give Syria an excuse to remain in the Bekaa. Had Israel pulled out unilaterally, it would have left Syria facing a fait accompli, thus finding it difficult to refuse Lebanon's request to withdraw from the Bekaa, the paper says. Still official Israeli thinking is following the opposite road.

Hanretz, also in Israel, speaks of the suicide bombing of the Israeli military post in Tyre. "The emergence of men who do not hesitate to sacrifice their lives changes the picture of the fight between us and (Arab) organizations," it says. "We must be prepared to face people who hate us so much, that they will expose themselves to dangers we have not imagined before."

"What do we get from staying in Lebanon? They claim that the security of Galilee requires our presence in Lebanon, but did our presence prevent the disaster that took place in Tyre? The smaller the area we occupy, the less the dangers we have to face."

Kol Ha'Ir agrees that the best way to stop operations like that of Tyre is to pull out. In one moment on that Friday, more Israelis were killed than in the whole Litani operation.

The Likud government, by keeping Israeli forces in Lebanon, is trying not to concede failure, the paper writes. In the face of suicidal attacks, the best way is to get out from Lebanon. "We have to understand that the Lebanese hate us so much because of what we have done to their beautiful country."

Davar says that Israel erred by not taking part in the Attala conference on the Middle East. News from the conference speaks about criticism directed against the Israeli policy in Lebanon and in the occupied territories.

"The influential Jewish forces in the US are in favour of withdrawal to the 1967 borders and granting the people of Palestine the right for self-determination. Preparations are being made to receive Shamir in Washington amid rumours about the reinforcement of strategic co-operation between the US and Israel towards the Lebanese crisis and the Syrian hostility. Still, we must not ignore the outcome of Atlanta conference."

Hamodia asks, "What can we achieve in the economic field next year?" It says Israel can cut the deficit in the balance of payments by \$1 or \$2 billion, and return to prosperity very soon. All this could be done taking into consideration the realistic restrictions, it claims.

"The minister of finance should work consistently on all the basic points raised by economists: promotion of exports and reduction of individual consumption and local security expenses," the Israeli paper says.

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Arafat the symbol

THE RENEWED attacks on Palestinian positions in North Lebanon this week by Syrian and Libyan forces are unlikely to spell the end of the Palestinian resistance movement as the attackers believe. In spite of the ominous silence of the Arab countries and the international community, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and his men, supported by Al-Tawhid Al-Islami movement in Tripoli, have vowed to continue their struggle against the Syrian-led conspiracy.

The Syrians have found that destroying Mr. Arafat and his loyal troops is not as easy as they thought. First, a great number of the munitiers, whom the Syrian regime used as a spearhead and to cover its intention to get rid of Mr. Arafat and control what remains of the PLO, have either joined Mr. Arafat's ranks or rebelled against the Syrian officers. This has not only bolstered the loyalists' morale, but exposed the falsity of Syria's allegations that the majority of the fighters have chosen to reject Mr. Arafat's leadership.

Second, the failure of the first wave of attacks on PLO positions early this month and the shaky truce that was finally achieved have not only increased Arab embarrassment at the local, regional and international levels, but also provided clear-cut evidence to the Palestinian people of where many of the Arab countries stood in relation to their cause. This is something Mr. Arafat's men and the refugees who fought with him will never forget. It will surely motivate them to preserve their freedom of choice in future peace efforts.

Third, Syria's bloody attack on refugee camps in North Lebanon and the attempt to destroy the legitimacy of the Palestinian representation did not weaken Mr. Arafat's image as the true leader and defender of the cause. On the contrary, the heroic fight that PLO loyalists are putting up against the conspiracy that is being executed by Syria and Libya has thrown the light once again on Mr. Arafat as the only man who can lead the Palestinian people out of their agony.

Mr. Arafat has been blamed by the munitiers for his strategies during Israel's invasion of Lebanon last year. Surely his determination to save the PLO's unity in the north and his fight against Syria's control absolves him of all these accusations. It is not Arafat the man that Syria is after; it is Arafat the symbol. Syria should know that symbols can never be destroyed.

Horrors of destruction

PROPOSALS CAME from opposite sides of the globe this week for a concept which, we consider, could do only good: that of the nuclear-free zone. The two proposals would make the Balkans and the Southwest Pacific into such zones. They come from widely differing quarters, but with the same intent. To make a start, however small it may be, on the removal from the world of the horrors that nuclear weapons threaten to bring down.

The discussion of the Pacific zone is perhaps the most interesting. Like the Balkans (and many other parts of the world), it is an area whose people feel that they could easily do without any future global conflict, no matter what is at stake; and who do not feel the need for "protection", strongly enough to want to allow nuclear weapons to be stationed nearby. But there is the added complicating factor that the region has for decades been the site of thermonuclear weapons tests by the French and others, who have not said they would stop such tests if the area's inhabitants ask them to.

We do not want to argue the concept of deterrence to maintain peace, we suppose that if the French really feel that they need an independent deterrent they must think they have some justification in getting off H-bombs in the Pacific from time to time. But whether or not you agree with the deterrence concept, it would be very hard to maintain that there is no need to try other ways of preventing the Third World War.

If any nuclear-free zones could be agreed upon and made to work, the methods of implementation and verification that are learned in these exercises would certainly be most useful experience to apply in any future agreement. Then we might hope to see the safe areas spreading across the globe as more peoples came to their senses and abandoned the thought of nuclear armament. Here we'd like to propose, by the way, that the Middle East should be one of the first regions where the concept would be applied — even though Israel has already brought the threat to the region herself.

We are so used to the concept of nuclear war, have warned each other against it so often and have pondered it so long that we may now almost feel that it is inevitable. But it is not — and we must do whatever we can to eliminate this all-destructive threat.



A song to Palestine

To the editor:

For many years I have been visiting the Middle East and especially Jordan. I have always been fascinated by the country, its traditions and monuments.

But more than anything else, the friendliness and openness of the people has impressed me. I have written numerous articles and poems about places in Jordan but until now I haven't attempted to write about the plight of the Palestinians.

But finally, I have written a song for them, which I hope captures their feeling and will fire in some people hope for a better future.

I would be grateful if you could publish this song in your newspaper.

Ernst Schenke
Perth
New South Wales
Australia

Excerpts:

Jafa and Gaza, the dome of the rocks
Wonders in a homeland few have ever seen
Oh Lord don't you know just what it would mean
To me and my brothers to say we have seen

Children of Palestine unite and join hands
Look forward to tomorrow, you will own your lands
And the city of Jerusalem will one day be free
And your brothers and sisters will also be free

The Times and the CIA

To the editor:

I am writing to complain about the article you carried in The Star issue of 20 October, headlined "CIA embarks upon fake information campaign."

The story that we carried and was refuted by Mr Ibrahim Bakr in your front page story of your 15 September issue, was from our correspondent Mr Ibrahim Bakr. We had no reason to doubt his story, if Mr Bakr felt the story was inaccurate, he didn't he come to us or take it up with Mr. Abu Nab himself?

Regardless of these issues, how can you run a report that says the CIA has used us and even bought us through "the Moon sect" for its own propaganda? Mr Abu Nab wrote the story for us and Middle East International.

To say the CIA owns us is a serious and irresponsible allegation with absolutely no foundation in fact. I know you didn't originate the story, but why run it when you know very well it is false?

Thomas Cronin
Publisher
The Middle East Times
Cyprus

Solution to traffic jams

To the editor:

With Royal attention and advice the concerned departments in the government are agreed to accomplish one of the country's largest projects, which is the Queen Alia International Airport. This project has solved the problem of aviation in this progressive country.

If we managed to solve this problem then we can hope that the problem of heavy traffic in Amman will be the next in line.

I suggest that the government move all its departments into a suitable area in the outskirts of Amman and establish an assembly of government offices.

This solution will have a drastic influence on the traffic jams in downtown Amman and will ensure maximum efficiency of government work.

All Al-Jawad
Jordan University
Amman

17 November

Kamel
Abu
Jaber



The dialogue

Greetings to Jerusalem!

VERY LITTLE can be done when a person persists in deliberately misunderstanding or misreading a situation. The problem here is more frustrating since it is not stupidity or lack of perception that causes the misunderstanding but a persistent and conscious effort to darken the picture, believe the facts and twist the reality so that it bears little resemblance to the actuality of the situation. Hitler advanced the idea that if you repeat a statement long enough, it will eventually be believed. Goering, his disciple and propagandist applied this theory. Even a lie, repeated often enough will initially become accepted, eventually a conviction and finally the truth of a new reality.

Zionist propaganda made further refinements on the crude applications of the Nazis to such an extent that it is indeed difficult, often impossible to reason with the Western mind, once it has been manipulated and twisted to absorb only certain images and facts filtered and refined for it by the powerful Zionist propaganda machine. At two recent conferences I attended in Britain and the United States, I found myself fascinated though deeply disturbed and frustrated at how the Middle East situation is perceived in the West.

When facts contrary to the Zionist claims are presented, the argument shifts to new grounds: the grounds that history is really immaterial where power is concerned. You are told that Israel is in possession of the land, that as the fourth most powerful military power in the world it cannot be ignored and must be dealt with realistically regardless of the rights or wrongs of history.

You drew a long breath and you count silently to ten and you go along with the new shift. You state that you know that Israel is a fact, otherwise who is reeking all this havoc but, you point out, the present mood in the Middle East is moderate and is in pursuit of peace. And you emphasize, hoping you are presenting a clever argument, that if the intransigence of Israel continues the moderate regimes of the area will be placed in jeopardy. The surety is cool to the Western interest because radical regimes will spring up: because the flow of oil might be disrupted and because the Soviet Union may benefit. With this last argument, which you think is very clever, you feel you have finally struck a cord. After all is not the West occupied, really preoccupied, with its fear of the East?

The argument shifts again and you are told that for Israel to withdraw, it will need to negotiate with somebody and if nobody is around to negotiate with, then how can anybody blame Israel? Subtly, you think, you point out, "How can Syria, Jordan or the PLO negotiate when Israel has already stated it will not withdraw from the Golan Heights, will not dismantle existing settlements nor cease the building of new ones, or will it withdraw from the West Bank, Gaza Strip or Jerusalem which is 'united' and made the 'eternal' capital of Eretz Israel. When you wonder, in a slight digression about the meaning of 'eternal', if anything on the face of this earth be 'eternal', you get a funny look. It is now that you are accused of being emotional and hopelessly illogical and you hasten to defend yourself, against the 'charge' though you wonder what would have happened had Hitler, and those people in the West, who discriminated and continue to discriminate against the Jews, had any decent human emotions. You wonder!

It is at this juncture in the dialogue that you are told: 'You Arabs cannot lay down preconditions before you enter the process of negotiations.' And it is here that you begin having serious qualms concerning the drift of the dialogue. You begin wondering whether you are making any sense or if you are involved in what the Arabs call the 'dialogue between the deaf.' Is anybody really listening or are you being deliberately misunderstood? But you brace yourself calling upon your inexhaustible store house of patience and you point out that it is Israel that has laid down the preconditions and not the Arabs. Is it not a pre-condition when Israel says it will not do this, that and the other thing? You also wonder aloud what the Arab preconditions were anyway?

It is at this point that the dialogue reaches its zenith of clarity. Now you are told by your Western partner, 'Please don't misunderstand me... I want to make it clear that I am pro-Israel and sympathetic with the Jews. You Arabs must come to terms with Israel. You cannot continue to ignore it. Yasser Arafat is a terrorist... now you have to admit that.' You take another deep breath and you wonder if your hearing is impaired or if you are hearing what you think you are hearing and you wish that the dialogue had not started in the first place. There are many points for discussion in your partner's last statement but you are at a loss as to where to begin. With his assumption that you do not know where he stands in the first place or with the change that Mr. Arafat is a terrorist. You wonder if he's even anything but a terrorist and whether the whole dialogue achieved anything but to add another dimension of confusion to an already deliberately confused situation.

opinion

The other side of the coin

AMONG THE reports that appeared in last week's press was one dealing with the housing crisis which the people of Nazareth in Galilee are facing at present. Owing to the shortage of budget-expenditure allowed for the Arab Nazareth municipality, very little housing expansion has taken place to the city since 1948 when it, together with the Galilee and other parts of pre-1948 Palestine, was incorporated in the State of Israel. To solve the housing problem, Arab Nazareth have been increasingly buying villas or apartments in Upper Nazareth, a Jewish settlement that has been planted on the hills overlooking Nazareth proper.

Consequently, out of the 26 thousand inhabitants in Upper Nazareth, 2500 Arabs have taken their residence there, and strongly enough among these 2500 Arabs is Ramiz Jarassi, the deputy head of Arab Nazareth's municipality. Of course, according to the Israeli land-sale law, no person of Arab origin can get hold of Israeli property, but it seems that the Arab 'intruders' have not got their purchases from the official contractor, but from Jewish settlers in the colony. Naturally hard-hend Israeli organizations, including the militant organization of Rabbi Meyer Kahana, so blindly and cruelly fanatic against anything Arab, are now carrying campaigns against the Arab newcomers.

The whole issue gives credit to the Arab sector of the population that still holds to its rights and status in that part of Palestine that has been annexed to Israel. It is a part that is often forgotten as if it never did belong to Arab Palestine, or ever happened to be Arab. But in spite of the neglect that these outstranded Arabs receive nowadays, they still form a good and struggling sector of the Palestinian population.

We have every now and then heard about their struggle through the massacre that the village of Kufur Qassim was subjected to on 29 October 1956, on the eve of the tripartite attack on Egypt. The harvest this time involved forty-nine villagers who had had no idea that a curfew was declared, and who were shot therefore, and Tawfiq Zayyad, the present mayor of Nazareth, who urged solidarity and resistance to the invader. Other names like Emilie Habibi and Emil Tuma are celebrated for the strife their beerers carried, through authorship and court litigation, to keep the Arab identity of the annexed Palestinian.

For indeed, the pressure brought down upon the so-called Israeli Arabs to shake their real identity or even kill it has been many-sided long-timed and heavy enough. They are often forgotten because many feel that they have become Israeli citizens. Out of this citizenship, they might have had certain pension and social welfare benefits, but the fact still remains that they are considered outcasts and treated as third-rate citizens. A set of laws, enacted as early as 1952, have been used as a double-edged weapon to confiscate Arab landed property, on the one hand, and to deprive Palestinians coming back to the state of Israel from abroad after 14th July 1952 and having no legal claim to landed property — their parents having died meanwhile or forfeited such claim — from citizenship and land retrieval.

Apart from this 1952 land-citizenship law, the law of Absentee Ownership, the law of Expropriation of Land, and the law of Collective Lands (owned by more than one person) enabled the state to expropriate 4 million dunums of Arab land, leaving only about 300,000 dunums in the hands of Palestinian Arabs living in Israel. This means that of the peasant majority of the 600,000 Palestinian inhabitants that still continued to stay in Israel, only a few — scattered over a number of the Galilee villages — could keep on doing independent and self-sufficient farming or agriculture. These remaining peasants, moreover, had lost their middle-class urban leadership, when a good number of well-off merchants and business people had established themselves outside Palestine and accordingly had not come back.

And last, though not least, we have heard about these often forgotten strugglers through the literary output of the such poets of the annexed Palestine as Mahmoud Darwish, who witnessed his village Birzi wiped out of existence. Samih Qassim, of 'Rami' in north-western Palestine, who sang for Arab nationalism and suffered imprisonment

Exhibiting death machines

I ATTENDED the Middle East International Defence Exposition, which is taking place this week at the Zarga Free Zone. This was the first military exposition that I have seen and to tell the truth I came out with many ideas and impressions.

Of course this kind of show is not intended for the average Jordanian consumer. You can't just go in and order a 1984 custom-made F-18 fighter jet or a special Commando V-300 armoured tank, to mention a few. This is an exposition where the customers are nations with large armies and lot of money. Civilian visitors were not taken seriously at the show. Instead, military personnel were shown around, presented with special pamphlets and detailed information on the modern equipment on display.

I liked the use of video tapes that gave one an explosive demonstration of a missile or a tank on the battlefield. Point-of-purchase techniques were used, computer drawings and even plastic replicas were handed to possible buyers. People talked destruction capabilities and the number of human beings this weapon or that can kill or injure.

I was also impressed by the level of modernization and technological achievements that were explained to us. Computers are now in use in almost all kinds of heavy weapons. Conventional war, where man comes face to face with his enemy and the number of fire power determines the possible winner, seems

to have ended. It is up to the efficiency of the computer and its speed to determine whether you or your enemy are winning. For example one computer, used by the French — gives you three choices when you enter the secret code. These are Airforce, Navy and Army. If you choose the Army the computer gives you what is called a manu, and that is your choice of infantry, armoured divisions and others. You play your war on computer terminals moving this battalion here and that squadron there. It looked like lots of fun but I am sure that away from the computer room a real war could have been taking place where human lives are controlled by electric circuit and magnetic chips.

Apart from these, one can also see in other sections of the exposition the latest fashions in the world of barbed wire, military outfits and boots, survival kits used in chemical wars and infra-red night-killing machines. There was something for everyone.

I wonder how much money is spent every year on modernizing death machines. We create more efficient destructive tools in the name of survival and peace, while we ignore helpless cries of poor, sick and hungry nations. We have made killing an art so refined that we attend special exhibitions to admire and appreciate the latest tricks in how to annihilate ourselves.

I think this is one exposition I would not mind missing next year; if you and I were still here.

opinion

Prince Hassan speaks to The Star at Atlanta —

Which Israel they want us to recognize... of 1967 or 1983?

EDITOR'S NOTE — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan was interviewed by Carrie Nelle Thompson, The Star Washington correspondent in Atlanta, Georgia where he attended a conference on Middle East peace with former US presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter. Prince Hassan asked the US in this interview — whether they can keep an eye on the requirements for peace in the Middle East and honour their bi-partisan commitments, to an election year. Also about Israel, he said the present establishment there discards any suggestions for negotiations for peace, nevertheless a section of Israeli society, wants peaceful co-existence with the Arabs. (Reproduced below is the complete text of the interview.)

Question: Has anything changed appreciably in the Middle East since our last interview in Amman in August? (see The Star issue Number 3, Vol. 2, 11 — 17 August 1983)

Answer: The situation in Lebanon has deteriorated further and similarly in the occupied territories (West Bank and Gaza Strip). It seems that the settlement process has been stepped up as well as the intensification of military locations into settlements and such. We have let the situation in the occupied territories worsen by default and I would like to say that we are in the process of transition: The transition in Lebanon, the PLO and in the occupied Arab lands.

Q: Are you aware that former President Carter made the statement that the Camp David accords would probably have worked out if the Palestinians and the Jordanians had sat down at that time and worked with them?

A: I have been in continuous contact with both Mr. Carter and Mr. Ford during my presence in Atlanta and Mr. Carter quoted (UN Security Council) Resolution 242. The Camp David accords and various presidential initiatives with the common grounds needed for peace. Jordan in the last Arab summit at Fez expressed the need for recognizing the basic rights of the Palestinians in the occupied territories and their right to participate in the negotiation process. The hint that the PLO might be represented at the Atlanta conference made Israel boycott it officially and as for Jordan we have repeated our willingness to participate in the peace process, but at Camp David we were not consulted. As far as the peace process is concerned, in its most recent manifestations in the Reagan initiative, we are fully supportive of this ray of hope and until last April we were working jointly with the PLO leadership to attempt to bring them to accepting the facts. The direct intervention of Syria and Libya and the effect that this intervention had on the freedom of action of the Palestinian political voice obviously affected the ability of Mr. Arafat to come forward.

"All we are asking for is a definition of Palestinian rights. We believe that Resolution 242 is the corner stone for future discussions on peace and yet 242 has been severely eroded by the physical changes in the occupied territories. Professor Benvenisti, the Israeli scholar expects 50 to 60 per cent of the land in the West Bank to be appropriated in the process of annexation of land. Effectively there is no middle ground when you say for example that Israeli exports to the West Bank represent 98 per cent of imports of that territory."

"I think it is possible for moderate Israelis to be objective on the one side and for us to be objective in stating the facts on the occupied territories on the other. His Majesty King Hussein was an honour a few days ago in asking for a review of the whole Palestinian-Jordanian equation as an essential factor, particularly if the PLO is to become under the domination of Arab countries."

Q: It seems that it has become a fact that the key to peace in the Middle East lies in the recognition of Israel. Certainly this is how the Israelis view it. Is it realistic for negotiations? Mr. Arafat has



Prince Hassan

"Certainly education needs to be done and we are glad to see that an American host moves on an independent mission such as this to hear our views and we hope that the follow-up can be as enthusiastic as the invitation."

been unable to do this and this it seems to be the crux of the situation. Can you comment? (Question made by attending reporter.)

A: This is a factor in the whole process of negotiations as we have said so many times before. Which Israel is it that they want us to recognize? The Israel of 1967 or 1983? There is a continuous growth of settlements in the occupied Arab territories and today we hear of a military government being appointed in South Lebanon. This is the dilemma: On one side there are those Israelis to the military establishment, who believe that Israel as a strategic ally of the United States is no longer a Mediterranean littoral state — no longer limited to that reality, while others who believe Israel is a country in the Middle East and should be considered as one. If the latter is the case then that country should have the readiness to abide by boundaries defined approximately in the 242 resolution, which we call the 1967 lines.

Q: Yesterday Carter made quite a few references to having been disappointed to what Israel had done and not done in working with the US. Do you see this as making any difference now to US foreign policy?

A: Well, as the '84 election race is run we notice many of the candidates leaning towards Israel's favour. Of course we notice the waiving of any conditions on loans, the grant of \$20 billion in terms of military aid, and this is done without any conditions. All of this does not carry with it any criticisms. It was a healthy development for us to have people as prestigious as former presidents Carter, Ford and other friends of Israel in this conference, who are being so critical of the process of settlement and the ever-growing concept of what I call an empire built on credit. I noticed the other day that the leader of the Labour movement in Israel was over critical of Jordan's request for military assistance in retaining Jordan's credibility in the region but at the same time trying to bring Jordan to the negotiating table through the use of economic pressure.

"Of course on our side whenever we try to rationalize Israel's policy in the occupied territory, we are told: 'You have to go to the negotiating table, to discuss peace' with an overwhelmingly strong and aggressive Israel. If there is to be peace in the region, the role of the honest broker should be to please both sides a little, not to concentrate pressure on one."

Q: What is your opinion on the so-called Jordanian strike force?

A: The financing of Jordan's arms sales programmes basically supports the Jordanian armed forces. As far as our readiness to support the stability of the Gulf states is concerned that is an inner Arab



Jimmy Carter



Gerald Ford

affair and we have on record supported these Gulf states, who such assistance has been called for. We have trained the military personnel in those countries and there is no such thing as a particular alliance with the United States as a super power to further US policies in the region.

Here the US has the international policy to recognize the fact that stability in the region should be promoted by people of the region themselves. Unfortunately this whole very exaggerated story of a rapid development force in conjunction with the United States is very cleverly planted by the Israeli lobby in this country with its friends in Congress, who further embarrass Jordan at a time when Jordan is required to support peace initiatives and stability, which we find regrettable particularly when what was debated in the Senate and Congress itself was largely an in-house American debate. The issue was raised and killed without the slightest consultation with where this might lead in terms of Jordan's legitimate concerns.

Q: Do you regret that the legislation was killed and the money is not in the budget for next year?

A: Obviously the weakening of Jordan and Jordan's Armed Forces is a weakening of the interest of countries which we feel believe in the promotion of stability. The alternative of course is either the US promoting Israel to be its sole ally in the area and beating us all over the head with the use of this sole ally, which is a form of neo-colonialism which no one in the area can accept.

"We feel that politics is for people and that the people of the region — Arab inhabitants of the region — have a right to contribute to that stability. We hope there is the statesman-like vision in Congress to recognize this fact in the future."

Q: What do you think of the current move by the Syrians against Arafat's last refugee to Tripoli? How directly do you see Syria's hand in these events?

A: It's regrettable that this development should have taken place. A year ago Arafat was being received by the heads of state at the summit conference at Fez and here we are today with a situation, where Arafat is calling for support in the Arab World with very few responses.

Jordan has been prominent among the countries that has condemned this action. We have always taken the view that a self-confident, independent Palestinian voice can contribute to furthering the Palestinian cause in the region and a better understanding worldwide, but unfortunately countries like Syria have bought the so-called Palestinian bandwagon to

the point where obviously they feel that their influence in this area is measured by the degree in which they can control zones of influence in the Lebanon or force their veto of the Palestinians. As far as the middle ground is concerned in this reality with Syria on the one side supported by a super power and Israel on the other supported by another super power. The middle ground is really the future of the little people. The Lebanese, the Palestinians and Jordanians.

Q: Has this particular conference that Mr. Carter and Mr. Ford have organized, accomplished anything? Particularly in view of the fact that Israel has chosen to boycott it just as it and the US chose to boycott the International Conference on the Question of Palestine in Geneva this summer?

A: In terms of the media message I think probably very little can be accomplished because so much in this country is influenced by Israel and its supporters. I sincerely hope that my voice and my statements can be communicated as widely as possible. We don't have many platforms to choose from in the US and that is why I am at this one. We hope really that such a meeting can possibly be the first time since the Brookings Report be a first step toward conceptualizing the issue of where America's interests lie in the region more clearly to everyone so we can all understand what the priorities are.

Certainly education needs to be done and we are glad to see that an American host moves on an independent mission such as this to hear our views and we hope that the follow-up can be as enthusiastic as the invitation.

Q: Obviously there can be no true peace in the Middle East unless Israel meets also. Can you think of a way to get Israel to the negotiating table like the one President Carter and Ford are having now?

A: I think that's a very good point. Effectively the present establishment in Israel is not interested in discussions that may modify those stances on the territories. Israel speaks for and consequently discards any suggestion for negotiations of the realities in those territories which vindicates our position to a certain extent. If we are going to turn the reality and swing the pendulum and appeal to the other sector of the Israeli society, already in the public opinion polls in terms of the peace movement organized by various political parties, who say that they have to accommodate themselves with the Arab. Obviously Jordan and the Palestinian community can play a role and it is basically the honest broker who has access to these occupied territories who can review the realities and can say — well there is hope for the implementation of UN resolution 242, if a moderate view is taken on both sides.

But absence of a framework — the only framework of Camp David of course was the idea of Jordan participating in a police-keeping role in the occupied territories which of course is not a matter that pleases the people there. But if independent review can come from meetings such as this — from a meeting of minds — we are hosting a meeting in early December of the Arab forum of eight Arab nationalities with a cross section of bi-partisan American representatives.

We are also looking forward to hosting a group of visiting congressmen — with a view to make themselves aware of the situation prevalent there, such as deprivation of rights of freely elected institutions in the area.

Q: You have spoken of moderation vs extremism in the Middle East and your characterization of the Israeli government in these terms. Whose would you place Syria?

A: The polarization that I spoke of with Syria with its alliance with the Soviet Union on one side and Israel with its ally the US on the other effectively squares both countries in to a direct confrontation and I think that the two extremes in the equation are contributing to the breakup in the area. Breakup of the Lebanon, that means ethnic, sectarian

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The politics of language



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CENTRAL AMERICA same game, higher stakes

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Letter from Moscow

From Lenin's mausoleum to 50-cent caviar at the ballet, all in one long day

By David Toufic Mizrahi
Associate Editor in the Middle East

The most striking feature of Moscow in summer is its long days and short nights: dusk is at 11:15 p.m. and dawn at 4:05 a.m. There are apparently shorter lines queuing up at department stores and food shops these days. The streets are clean, the Muscovites law-abiding.

On weekends, long lines of visitors snake along Red Square to pay their tribute to Vladimir Lenin, father of the nation, whose body lies in a frozen crypt in a pink, marble-clad mausoleum. The young marrieds are very visible. There's a tradition in Moscow that the bride and groom, right after their civil wedding, drive directly to two monuments: they deposit flowers at the tomb of the unknown soldier and visit the nearby Lenin mausoleum.

Behind the mausoleum lie buried Soviet heroes going back to the October Revolution. Chief among them one recognizes the busts of war hero Field Marshal Bagration, Joseph Stalin, Aleksei Kosygin, Leonid Brezhnev, but oddly enough, not Nikita Khrushchev.

A visitor to Red Square is amazed at how few laughing faces he sees. The Soviets apparently don't have ready smiles. The second noticeable feature about the square is the plethora of armed troops. Everywhere one looks there are soldiers visiting the wall square that symbolizes the Russian Revolution.

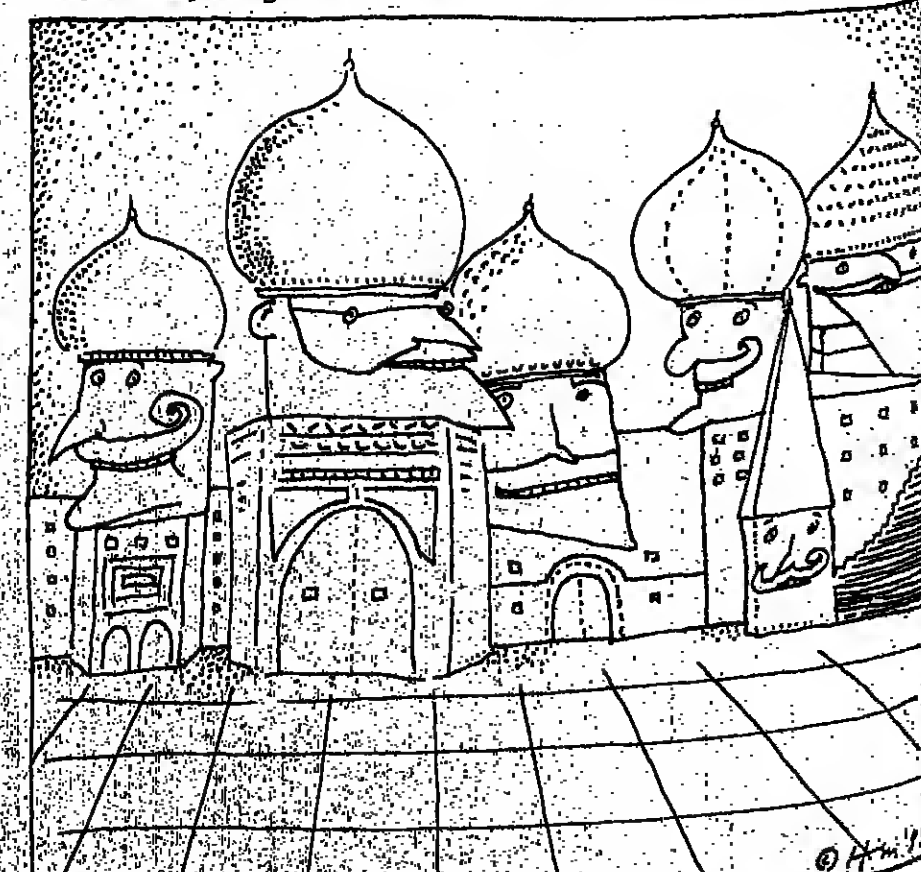
Red Square seems to hold in its enclave all that symbolizes the history of the Soviet Union. The Kremlin walls, stera and cold, are surrounded by the onion-shaped domes of the Russian Orthodox Church where the czars were crowned and where they celebrated their victories. Across the street stands the Gum department store, the largest in the Soviet Union. Unlike much of the square, it is not so crowded.

In the evening—that is, at 7 p.m. when the sun is still shining brightly—it is ballet time. Next to Red Square stands a new theater where the Kirov Ballet of Leningrad is performing Cinderella by the Russian composer Prokofiev, to be followed the next day by another performance, Gayaneh, by the Armenian composer Aram Hachadourian, who died some five years ago. The best seats are sold for the equivalent of US\$3.50 because all theaters and shows in the Soviet Union are subsidized.

At the theater, a visitor has a chance to sit close to the Soviet people, who as a rule do not socialize with foreign tourists. Most of the audience is made up of elderly people, although there are more young people scattered about than in New York. There are also many Americans and Europeans in the audience. During intermission most of the audience rushes to the escalators to get first crack at the open-air floor, five flights up, that can service literally a thousand customers in 15 minutes, including caviar at 50 cents a serving. It seems this restaurant is the best buy in Moscow. One can have a full dinner for \$4.

Moscow's landscape mixes old and new. Along the beautiful Moscow River, one can see the pastel-colored old houses and palaces which were once owned by the Russian nobles. In remote sections, however, particularly near the international airport, new barrack-style apartment buildings, occupied at the subsidized monthly rent of \$15 for a three-bedroom flat, are sprouting up.

Food is reasonably priced, but clothing and other items quite excessive by Soviet standards, a simple pair of shoes fetching about \$40. All in all, the Soviet government appears to have improved the lot of its 260 million citizens since the bulk of them moved from the condition of "muzik" (Russian peasant under the czars) to simply "tovarich" (comrade). And, personally, I found Soviet officials much more forthcoming, open and even congenial in interviews this summer than was true just three years ago.



CENTRAL AMERICA

RELENTLESSLY the wheels of history keep turning, crushing Central America. Today, they seem to spin faster, but they are only causing more blood to be spilled. Blood has a perverse way of making headlines and generating fast, shallow analyses. But headlines cannot convey the years of hope, the decades of suffering, the labyrinthine—and sometimes savage—



ways in which different groups in each Central American country have been trying to gain power.

Although the stakes in the region have been higher recently, the players are the same ones of decades past.

Some are changing their roles—the church, for instance, is moving from an alliance with the oligarchic elite to the support of the peasants' struggle. Others maintain their traditional posture—the army, while increasing in size,

continues to be an internal "counterinsurgency" force. And still others continue to search for their proper niche—the moderately progressive center-left parties still seek, without success, a political space from which they might influence events.

At the same time, the US finds itself increasingly involved in a no-win situation that only serves to fuel both the military and the political might of the guerrillas. Sometimes the headlines may read like a farce. But the blood is real.



Church wants 'to be with the peasants'

By Carlos Castilho
Special to WorldPaper

RIO DE JANEIRO—The man, wearing faded and torn jeans and a sweat-stained shirt, is leading a group of peasants up a small hill covered with sparse vegetation in Chaleitanga province, 100 kilometers south of San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador.

When the group reaches a clearing in the woods, a man puts a box on the ground and a woman covers it with a cloth that once was white. The men in the jeans remove a metal cup and a small bottle of red wine from his shoulder bag. Another woman moves closer and places a piece of bread on top of the box.

The women cover their heads with small handkerchiefs and the men remove their straw hats, while the men in jeans puts on his shoulders a shawl with native motifs and makes the sign of the cross in front of the box.

Father J.M. (he asked not to be identified) is beginning his third mass of this hot summer Tuesday, inside the area controlled by the guerrillas of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN). At least three men in the small crowd carry rifles which they lay on the ground while crossing their hands over their chests.

Father J.M. ministers to a parish on the outskirts of the town of Chaleitanga. On Saturdays and Sundays he celebrates marriages, conducts baptisms and reads his sermons to the townfolk. During the week he goes to the war zone to pray with the people who are afraid of abandoning their hiding places in the woods.

It is believed that about 50 Salvadoran Catholic priests are involved in this weekly trip between the rural areas controlled by the "muchachos" and the cities held by the regular army. They don't hide their sympathies for the guerrillas, but they stress that they do not belong to the FMLN and that their mission is "to be with the peasants to continue the work of Oscar Romero," the San Salvador bishop who was killed in March of 1980 while he was giving a sermon strongly criticizing the Christian-Democratic government.

Father J.M. is a member of the "popular church," a pastoral group that appeared within Catholicism throughout Latin America and that reached its peak in troubled Central America. The movement has no leaders, though it is said it was inspired by the early 1960s "assistant-

tialism" of the Brazilian Bishop Helder Camara and by the evangelical reformism of Sergio Arceo, bishop of Cuernavaca, Mexico. It has no formal structure, but has its martyrs: the Colombian priest Cernilo Torres, the first cleric to join the guerrillas, and Bishop Oscar Romero. It has no well-defined political goals—except that the members of the popular church want to disassociate religion from its role as traditional ally of the social and political elites, and favor direct participation in the movements for social change instead of the theoretical remoteness they see the Vatican calling for.

These views were formally expressed in the Document of Medellín, approved during the second meeting of the Latin American Bishops' Council in 1968, in that Colombian city. These same ideas were then reaffirmed by the third Latin American Bishops' Council that took place in Puebla, Mexico, in 1979.

The first "revolutionaries" within the church appeared in South America—in Colombia, Brazil and Argentina—but it was in Central America, especially in Nicaragua in 1979, that they saw for the first time the fruition of their ideas.

With the victory of the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua, four Catholic priests were made cabinet members of a government seen by most of the other governments on the continent as leftist and pro-Marxist. The popular church had openly aligned itself formally with a political project of radical change of the social and economic structures.

A large part of the Nicaraguan clergy was already working in the resistance against the Somoza dictatorship long before 1979. The economic contrasts between the ostentatious wealth of the dominant sectors and the misery of the rural population inspired sermons increasingly critical of the regime then in power. And, in a country that is 96 percent Catholic, the sermons were listened to.

In the case of Nicaragua the politicization of the clergy happened gradually and wasn't talked about by the media. The same thing happened in other countries in the area.

This surprised even the Cuban leader Fidel Castro. During his visit to Managua, Nicaragua's capital, in 1980, Castro took part in a discussion at the university where, cautiously, he spoke about the existence of an informal alliance between

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Central America

A new church

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Central American Catholics and the revolutionaries. To his surprise, a nun stood up in the audience and said that it was not an alliance but, instead, a unity. Embarrassed, Castro admitted later that compared with the nun he was a "conservative."

The role of the popular church in Central America is forcing the Cuban government to review its traditional mistrust of the Catholics. Cuban teachers and instructors sent to Nicaragua since 1980 have even started participating openly in religious ceremonies.

Paradoxically, the major problems faced today by the activist clergy in Central America do not come from Marxist oriented governments or political parties but, instead, from within the church itself. In contrast with his support of the religious opposition to the communist regime in his native Poland, Pope John Paul II has constantly criticized the politicization of the popular church.

During his visit to Managua last year, John Paul II publicly gave strong support to the bishop of Managua, Monsignor Orlando y Bravo, who is in open conflict with the Nicaraguan junta. The Pope was booed during the solemn mass when he demanded that the Catholics refrain from participating in politics, and he reprimanded Father Ernesto Cardenal, minister of Education, shaking his finger in the priest's face when he knelt on the airport tarmac to receive the Pope's benediction.

After John Paul's return to the Vatican, the battle between conservatives and activists within the church in Central



John Paul II's pontifical finger admonishes Father Ernesto Cardenal, Nicaragua's minister of Education, and sends an unwelcome sign to the Catholic Church in Central America.

America became more intense. In Costa Rica and Honduras, foreign missionaries known for their progressive positions

have been sent back to their native countries. In Nicaragua, an American nun and a Spanish priest found on their return, after traveling abroad, that their places had been taken by others.

With the support of the Latin American Bishops' Council, Monsignor Obando y Bravo persists in calling for the removal of the four priests that occupy cabinet positions in the Sandinista government, arguing that the critical phase for the establishment of the government is over and they should not be needed anymore. The government and the priests reject the demand saying that US diplomatic and military pressures over the last months have put a return to normalcy further away.

In addition to their problems with the Vatican, clerics in Central America are facing other ones. In Nicaragua, Catholic activists have been concerned about the invasion by fundamentalist Protestant groups intent on conquering the "hearts and minds" of the rural populations, particularly the Miskito Indians who live on the Atlantic coast. The church has also been at odds with the Sandinista leadership over mistreatment, including mass relocation, of the Miskitos.

In El Salvador, internal conflicts within the guerrilla movement, which have resulted in the recent deaths of two important rebel leaders, has shaken the confidence of the church activists in the movement's remaining leaders. On the other hand, in Guatemala the clergy and the leftists drew closer together during the government of the recently overthrown General Rios Montt who, with his fundamentalist messianism, shocked the Catholic hierarchy of the country.

If nothing else, it is clear that despite the repeated warnings of Pope John Paul II, and of several bishops in the region, the Latin American Catholic "flock" is increasingly active and more and more distant from its "shepherd" at the Vatican.

Carlos Castilho is a Brazilian journalist who writes about Third World issues.

Guerrillas: an increasingly popular last resort

By Edelberto Torres-Rivas
Special to WorldPaper

SAN JOSE—In Central America, social discontent in rural areas historically has turned into guerrilla warfare. Central America still is predominantly rural. And these areas are precisely the ones where economic exploitation, social and cultural poverty and political despotism have persisted at their worst.

In Guatemala, the guerrilla movement at first had a reactionary character. The guerrilla uprising in 1971-73, known as the "Revolution of the Remiacheros" were, typically, reactionary social movements, with an ideological rather than an economic goal: to defend their religion and the privileges of the Catholic Church.

In El Salvador, the establishment of an economy based on agricultural exports was a bloody and violent process. Communal lands were seized to grow export crops which infuriated the peasants and triggered armed resistance. The consolidation of private property and coffee production caused at least eight major rural uprisings between 1879 and the end of century.

Nicaragua underwent a similar process in 1880-81, while developing its coffee plantations—the standard cover for communal land usurpation. The Matagalpa region was the site of long and violent peasant revolts against the expansion of the coffee plantations.

Thus, the first wave of guerrillas in Central America retained the inevitable ambiguity of the old peasant rebellions: a search for justice in a rapidly changing world, social struggles with a conservative, defensive ethos in the face of the contradictory progress of agrarian capitalism.

Augusto Cesar Sandino, leader of the rebellion against the US occupation of Nicaragua in the 1920s, changed all that. His goals developed as a political, ideological and cultural reaction against the imperial designs of the US—that had been occupying the country since 1911—and against the repulsive inaction of the local oligarchy who were more concerned with infighting for monopolistic control of business and land ownership than with defending national sovereignty.

Socially, Sandino's guerrilla force was unique in that it drew the direct, continued support of peasants, small landowners and other rural groups in western Nicaragua, as well as that of urban intellectuals and professionals. And technically it was also unique: the military superiority of the US Army was rendered impotent by a warfare strategy based on tactical attrition. Doubtless, western Nicaragua's seven-year guerrilla struggle (1927-33), is the most outstanding precedent of social rebellion in Central America history.

In the mid-1970s, Central America entered a period of acute political crisis. Governments were unable to exert their authority even by the repeated use of the most diverse forms of coercion. Between 1974 and 1976, popular discontent spread and resulted in the growth of guerrilla movements. Such was the case in Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador.

The common denominator, in all cases,



The guerrillas depend on the population's backing to strengthen their movement.

is that armed insurrection always emerges as a response to government terrorism—as the last option of civil disobedience against an authoritarian regime that uses violence as its first and main resource.

Of all the rebel forces, Nicaragua's Frente Sandinista de Liberación Nacional (FMLN) provides the most significant example. Between 1961, when it was formed, and the July 1979 victory, the FMLN went through some failures and setbacks that threatened its very existence.

The opposition to Anastasio Somoza followed two paths which, though very different, never clashed. One was the strictly political opposition, led by businessmen and politicians, some of which were former government supporters; and the other was the political-military opposition, involving students, workers and mainly peasants, headed by the Sandinista Front.

The death of Pedro Joaquín Chamorro, political leader and journalist, marked the beginning of the final stages in the struggle against the dictatorship. At that point it became apparent that the guerrilla movement had vast popular support. By the end of 1978, at the decisive moment, the FMLN's three factions united and achieved broad political support through the Democratic Front.

In Guatemala, the guerrilla movement was also born amidst defeats. In 1966-68, the first guerrilla wave was crushed by the army's counterinsurgency strategy, assisted and financed by the US. During the following six years (1968-74), however, the practice of counterinsurgency, despite its violence, failed to bring either peace or order. The main victims of this policy were the democratic opposition, the unions, the student movements and, in general, a significant portion of Guatemala's population.

By the late 1970s, the guerrilla movement had a strong base among the impoverished peasants in the Indian highlands, among the urban workers, the unemployed and the country's students. The political crisis reached its most critical moment, when, in 1981, a tactical alliance

The moderates are still trying to gain influence

By Horacio Ruiz
Special to WorldPaper

MANAGUA—For more than 30 years, parties of the political center—primarily social democratic and moderate socialist parties—have struggled to influence Central America's political life. The advancement of their cause, however, has been hindered by two major obstacles: the age-old civilian-military oligarchy that has traditionally ruled these countries and a whole new set of political problems.

Guatemala was the first country in Central America to develop a moderate-left movement. Its origins can be traced back to the days following the US-supported coup in 1954 that overthrew President Jacobo Arbenz of Guatemala—aborting the first determined attempt to establish a socialist government in the region. The coup triggered a reaction by previously centrist intellectuals and politicians who began organizing a "soft-left" line. Moderate socialist parties were organized mainly to defend the rights of farm workers through agrarian reform. But they were all short-lived.

During the late 1960s, Mario Mardex Montenegro succeeded in establishing a moderate leftist government. But the powerful Guatemalan military oligarchy quickly regained power through General Eugenio Laugerud García. In due time, he was replaced by General Romeo Lucas García. García was in turn overthrown by General Efraín Ríos Montt who, after a short period in office, was himself overthrown by current President Humberto Mejía Victores.

El Salvador has the region's strongest moderate-left movement, but it is also under a military oligarchy supported by the country's wealthy. The wealthy are notably reactionary toward any social reform that could relieve—if only slightly—the enormous pressure now affecting the impoverished majority. These are the key factors fueling the three-year-old civil war.

During the worst days of the Salvadoran civil war, Christian Democratic President Napoleon Duarte proved to be a strong and calm leader who devoted his efforts to advancing the country's agrarian reform which, in his own words, "would rescue the rural masses, pulling them away from the civil war."

But in 1982, the Christian Democratic Party unexpectedly lost the National Assembly elections to a right-wing coalition. Alvaro Magaña, a moderate rightist of wealthy background, became president of El Salvador. Napoleon Duarte then chose to leave the country and its politics, remaining in self-exile for several months.

Now Duarte is back in El Salvador and will run for president in the February 1984 elections.

Honduras presently has a moderate leftist government under Roberto Suazo Cordova, the first democratically elected civilian president in years. The two political parties—the Liberal Party and the Conservative National Party—that have dominated Honduras's political scene for decades are both populist. Suazo Cordova is a Liberal.

It was another Liberal president, Ramon Villeda Morales, who implemented the agrarian reform that would benefit farm workers in the country's poorest region. The program redistributed much land and, according to experts, allowed

between the guerrilla groups and the Guatemalan Work Party (communist) was established. The government lost control of all the main roads in the north and failed to enforce order in 19 of Guatemala's 22 provinces. The Guatemalan guerrilla movement, however, has never established what is known as "liberated zones," opting instead for a policy of armed propaganda and active tactical warfare.

After 1981, a renewed military strategy, fiercely put into practice against the civilian Indian population, destroyed 98 villages and killed at least 10,000 people, fueling an equally renewed rebellion. Instead of implementing even minor reforms which would have gained them some popular support, the successive Guatemalan military regimes have only stiffened their counterinsurgency measures.

In El Salvador, the socio-economic reality dramatically reflects all the contradic-

Honduras to sail through Central America's revolutionary struggles without any domestic uprisings. Thanks to this reform, Honduran farm workers have remained relatively peaceful, though they are among the poorest in the region.

In Nicaragua, the Somoza dictatorship condemned all opposition parties as "communist." Under the present revolutionary regime, the parties have not found the freedom they hoped would come in the wake of Somoza's fall.

By contrast, the moderately rightist Democratic Conservative Party has become stronger under the radical Sandinista regime. Threatened by the possible onset of communism in Nicaragua, many have apparently reacted by supporting the right. Further, many centrist leaders have left the country to join armed opposition to the Sandinistas.

Similarly, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force—the strongest opposition party before its proscription—united with former Sandinista high officers to create the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) under the leadership of Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora.

Given its unique origin and characteristics, ARDE is one of the few moderate-left groups to choose armed rebellion.

Costa Rica is the only Central American country ruled by a truly social democratic government. President Luis Alberto Monge belongs to the National Liberation Party (PLN), which first took power in 1948 with an armed revolution headed by José Figueres, one of the most famous advocates of democracy in the continent.

The PLN took the social democratic banner from the Unity Party which, though conservative, had been infiltrated by Costa Rican communists. Since 1948, the PLN has been in power several times, always developing social programs and reforms advantageous to the country's majority. Thanks to the open democratic process prevailing in Costa Rica—the purest in Latin America—opposing parties take turns at the country's helm almost every other term.

In the last elections, Monge took office at a time of deep economic crisis compounded by rampant inflation and increasing social unrest. Monge offered a program for economic recovery and today, with two more years to go, he is very close to fulfilling his promises. The economy has improved, and inflation has been brought down.

But Monge's government is being heavily criticized by the working class—particularly the banana workers of the Pacific coast, the influential teachers' union and the refinery workers.

Criticism notwithstanding, Monge probably heads the most successful social democratic government in Central America.

The ruling elite of Central America are beginning to compromise in the hope that gradual social change will keep communism at a safe distance. Some radical rightist groups, however, remain very active. In Guatemala and El Salvador radical right-wing groups periodically kidnap or kill members of center or left parties.

In Honduras, the armed forces chief, General Gustavo Alvarez Martínez, is representative of the military majority that has learned to live with a civilian government. For the time being, Honduran democracy under military control seems stable.

In all the other Central American countries—except Nicaragua—the Christian Democratic or Social Democratic solution seems more viable with each passing day.

Horacio Ruiz is managing editor of the daily Nicaraguan newspaper, La Prensa.

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Larger armies to try to keep control

By Gregorio Selser
Special to WorldPaper

MEXICO CITY—Last August, the Honduran military expressed satisfaction with the results of its latest military registration campaign. According to official figures, 300,000 young men were registered and available for active duty. The same is happening in El Salvador. Today both El Salvador and Honduras have well over 300,000 men each in their armed and security forces, a number that is very likely to keep increasing.

Throughout Central America, recent developments in the region, especially since 1980, are responsible for an unprecedented growth in the armed forces.

In Nicaragua, the replacement of the National Guard by a Sandinista revolutionary army and popular militia totaling more than 100,000 strong is a totally new phenomenon in the region.

Even Costa Rica, an exception for not having a regular army, is expanding its domestic police forces. And Guatemala has the largest and most powerful armed force in the region, numbering nearly 60,000 men if one includes its security forces and "paramilitary" groups along with the regular army.

But this is not the way things used to be in Central America. Until the ousting of Anastasio Somoza Debayle on July 19, 1979, and the civilian-military coup that overthrew Salvadoran General Carlos H. Romero on October 16 of that same year, the regional military establishment had changed little since the early 1950s.

At that time, most of the armed forces in the continent began to standardize their operational methods and emphasized their traditional role of preserving internal law and order. They were able to concentrate on domestic rather than external threats because the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty made any European intervention in the Americas unlikely and the Organization of American States charter provided viable negotiating mechanisms, which reduced the possibility of armed conflict among Latin American nations.

In practical terms, the armies became militarized police forces, adapting themselves more and more to the increasingly perfected standards set for these types of forces in the late 1920s when the US created and trained the Nicaraguan National Guard, putting it under the command of Anastasio Somoza Garcia.

For decades the military have been the prime arbiters of political power in Central America. In 1931, the civilian government of El Salvador was replaced by a military regime. That same year, a general became the dictator of Guatemala. In 1983, the Nicaraguan military overthrew the democratic government and six months later installed Anastasio Somoza in power. And in Honduras, another general, this time supported by the legislative branch, extended his constitutional term in office and retained power until 1984.

Both the Salvadoran and the Guatemalan general presidents were ousted in 1944 by civilian military coups. Honduras, which had civilian governments between

1949 and 1963, then entered an almost 20-year long cycle of military coups, broken only in 1982, with the election of President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

In Guatemala, the 1944 coup was followed by two legally elected governments—those of Dr. Juan Jose Arevalo and Colonel Jacobo Arbenz Guzman. This period ended in 1954, as a result of a foreign-induced destabilization that climaxed with armed operations from bases in Honduras and Nicaragua. Since Arbenz' resignation, Guatemalan governments—though at times civilian—have been military in essence.

In Nicaragua, Anastasio Somoza Garcia retained power by devising a system of alternating in office with trusted proxies while remaining head of the National Guard, the country's only armed force. In 1966, his assassination triggered an unprecedented event in twentieth-century Latin American politics—a presidential dynasty. Automatically, power went to his two sons. Luis Somoza Debayle assumed the presidency and his brother Anastasio, a West Point graduate, inherited command of the National Guard, the only true guarantee of lasting power.

The major exception to the domestic militarization of Central America has been Costa Rica. The successful revolution led by Jose Figueres Ferrer in 1948 resulted in an amendment to the constitution banning the formation of professional armed forces. Still today, law and order in Costa Rica is enforced by a Civil Guard and a Rural Guard that, though rather modest in size, have adequately fulfilled the police role they were assigned.

Armies in the other four countries share a very high professionalism and an increasing specialization. In each country local officer academies have been permanently reinforced by the presence of regular US military missions and particularly by the US Army School of the Americas. Located in the Panama Canal Zone, it trains hundreds of Central American officers each year. The school consists of several institutes, including the well-known Fort Gulick Academy that already has trained well over 50,000 men, more than a third of them from Central America.

Courses at the academy are structured around what has come to be known as the "national security doctrine," an ideological-political-strategic framework that, particularly since the 1950s, has emphasized the importance of a domestic military-police force prepared to deal with what it calls "internal subversion," "communist subversion" or simply "counterinsurgency."

Central American armies are therefore trained as professional national guards that do not really need sophisticated weapons or sizable military capabilities.

Army, navy and air force manpower levels have remained pretty much the same for almost 30 years, not surpassing 6000 to 10,000 each. But with the increasing political unrest throughout the region, this decades-old situation has started to change.

Gregorio Selser is an Argentinian journalist now living in Mexico where he teaches at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma.

Will the US, again, send in the Marines?

By Wayne S. Smith
Special to WorldPaper

WASHINGTON, D.C.—If the Reagan administration had a better sense of history it would realize it is playing an old tune in Central America—one the US has played often before and never with very good results.

Charging Nicaragua and Cuba with encouraging revolution in El Salvador, the administration has launched a not-so-secret war against Nicaragua and is providing military backing to the government of El Salvador in its fight against the guerrillas. As neither of these efforts is succeeding, the odds are that the United States will at some point have to intervene with its own troops.

It would certainly not be the first time the US has intervened militarily in the region. Indeed, there have been no less than a dozen previous interventions. The specific motives and circumstances differed with each case, but there was an underlying purpose behind all—in reaffirm US hegemony. As Undersecretary of State Herbert Olds put it in 1927: "Central America has always understood that governments we recognize and support stay in power, while those we do not recognize and support fail."

Few of our interventions solved anything. Frequently they simply created the conditions for future instability. The second Nicaraguan intervention, which Mr. Olds' statement was intended to justify, was a case in point. In 1927, as in 1983, the US said it feared Bolshevik influence in Nicaragua. In 1927, however, it was Mexico rather than Cuba that was accused of spreading communist influence. Mr. Olds warned that: "The action of Mexico in the Nicaragua crisis is a direct challenge to the United States."

Believing the only way to meet such a challenge was with US Marines, the US dispatched several thousand of them to occupy Nicaragua. They fought guerrillas, held elections, organized the Guardia Nacional and placed Anastasio Somoza at its head. Shortly after the Marines were withdrawn in 1933, Somoza seized power and established a personal dictatorship. Not until 1979 was the rule of the Somoza family ended by a popular uprising. Thus, rather than a healthy political system able to evolve to meet new demands, the legacy of US intervention was almost 50 years of tyrannical, unenlightened rule—during which were planted the seeds of today's turmoil.

In 1983 as in 1927, the US insists the conflict in Central America represents a communist challenge. Such analysis is as wrong now as it was in 1927. The conflict in Central America springs from conditions within the region. The old order is crumbling in Central America because it is incapable of meeting changing social and economic demands. The Somoza regime would have been overthrown even if Cuba had not existed and Moscow were still ruled by the czars. Similarly, a civil war would be raging in El Salvador today even if that country were totally isolated from both Nicaragua and Cuba.

The Reagan administration would have us believe the civil war was started by communist terrorists attempting to block progress toward democracy and economic development. This is sheer hokum. In fact, the war got started only after all such progress had been blocked by the military, who had stolen the elections of 1972 and 1977. In October of 1979, sensing a coming explosion unless reforms were begun, a group of young officers seized power and called for elections and socio-economic reforms. It also ordered the senior military commanders to curb the excesses of the security forces. This progressive junta was probably El Salvador's last chance at relatively peaceful change.

Only two months after the junta was installed, however, the senior military commanders flatly refused to recognize its authority or to obey its instructions to stop the atrocities of the security forces. The civilian members of the junta therefore resigned. Colonel Majano, the leader of the October 1979 coup, was driven into exile. Many Salvadorans who had tried to bring about change through democratic processes gave it up and instead went over to armed struggle. By the spring of 1980, the war was on in earnest. It was not started by the commu-

nists. If anyone caused it, it was the military themselves.

This is not to deny that there is no external factor in the Central American equation. There is. Moscow and Havana have tried to take advantage of the situation. They have helped Nicaragua build up its military forces and without question enjoy considerable influence in Managua. Havana at least has given some degree of support to the guerrillas in El Salvador (though the Reagan administration has grossly exaggerated the magnitude and importance of this support). Some of the Salvadoran guerrillas, moreover, are extremely radical, if not actually Marxist-Leninist.

All these things are of legitimate concern to the US and should not be ignored. The point, however, is that there are better, more sophisticated ways of addressing them than those chosen by the administration. Indeed, the Reagan administration's approach could hardly be less effective or more counterproductive in terms of US interests and objectives.

Consider, for example, the administration's response in Nicaragua. As everyone knows, it has mounted a "secret" war against the Sandinista government. Assuming that an arms flow still exists from Nicaragua to El Salvador, the secret war has had no effect at all in stopping it. The administration cannot point to a single rifle or bullet that has been interdicted.

Certainly, the war has not and cannot moderate Nicaraguan policies, either foreign or domestic. On the contrary, it drives them in an even more radical direction and, inevitably, increases rather than diminishes Soviet and Cuban influence.

Finally, the secret war does not get rid of the Sandinistas. That is beyond its scope. The only thing it may do is leave the US without any leverage or negotiating position in Nicaragua. Like the Bay of Pigs invasion, the Reagan administration's secret war against Nicaragua may be the rarest of all things: a perfect failure.

As approach in El Salvador is not much better. The war drags on inconclusively. Human rights violations are as bad as ever. No one in the administration can indicate

even the outline of a solution.

How might the administration have better handled the situation in Central America?

First, it should have placed more emphasis on multilateral diplomacy. It would have been entirely feasible to have negotiated a series of international conventions that would have ended all cross-border activities in support of guerrillas and to have placed a ceiling on armaments and armies, as well as terminating or at least reducing foreign military involvement.

The Nicaraguans were interested in such an arrangement as early as 1981. If the US had really wished to halt both Nicaragua's support to the Salvadoran guerrillas and Nicaragua's own military buildup, it might have explored the possibility of accomplishing both through an international accord. It did not do so.

The US might also have had far more success through patient diplomacy than through the secret war in bringing to bear its considerable influence with the Nicaraguans—influence which included economic inducements and leverage.

In El Salvador, a negotiated solution was, and probably still is, entirely feasible. The guerrillas have indicated not only their willingness to negotiate but to participate in elections if they are preceded by negotiations to bring about appropriate conditions for belting. Talks with the guerrillas will get nowhere and achieve nothing, however, so long as the administration end the Salvadoran government hold to the position that there is nothing to discuss other than the terms for the opposition's participation in a political process organized and overseen exclusively by the same government forces the guerrillas are now fighting. Only a fool would accept such a proposal, and the guerrillas are not fools.

The Reagan administration pays lip service to the need for negotiations but in fact has sidestepped every opening for diplomacy. Why? Essentially because once having portrayed the situation as a matter of Soviet aggression, and as a direct challenge to US security, the administration became the prisoner of its own rhetoric. To negotiate

They already have...

ON October 25, the rhetorical questions about a US intervention in what it calls its "backyard" were answered when US Marines and army rangers landed on Grenada, a small Caribbean island. There were Cuban workers in Grenada, who put up some resistance, and a handful of Soviet advisers.

The official justification was to protect US citizens there and to restore democracy after a Grenadan group President Reagan called "a brutal gang of leftist thugs" had killed the Marxist prime minister.

The invasion was supported by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, but there were strong cries of indignation, including from the UN and the US Congress. The impact was most acutely felt in nearby Central America. A Nicaraguan spokesman stated, "The same argument President Reagan used to justify the invasion of Grenada, to restore democracy, can be used to attack Nicaragua. We're back in the days of gunboat diplomacy."

now, it probably fears, would give the impression of accommodating aggression. Hence, it is forced by the image it itself has created to press on in its efforts to overthrow the Sandinista government and force a military solution in El Salvador.

At some point, it will become clear to the administration that it cannot accomplish those objectives with the tools at hand, that American combat forces will have to be committed to achieve them. And, after all, we sent the Marines to Nicaragua in 1927 to "stop the Bolsheviks."

Wayne S. Smith was chief of the US interests section in Havana from 1979 until 1982 when he left the Foreign Service because of disagreements with the Reagan administration's foreign policy. He is now a senior associate at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.



The Giant Panda needs your help to survive

ONCE every eighty to a hundred years the bamboo forests in China's Sichuan Province burst into flower and then die off. And that's bad news for the Giant Panda, which depends for its survival on huge amounts of bamboo.

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Conservation Programme. This includes construction of a research and conservation centre in the largest of the Panda reserves—Wolong Natural Reserve in Sichuan Province.

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Surveying the scene in Central America

GUATEMALA

Guatemala is the most populous country in Central America and, since the withdrawal of the Spanish in the 1820s, it has been the politically dominant state in the region.

Since the mid-1950s, Guatemala has been torn by political violence, both from the left and the right. The current wave of unrest began in 1974, when the military refused to allow opposition candidate General Efraim Rios Montt to assume power after winning national elections.

In the late 1970s, General Romeo Lucas Garcia's regime launched a stepped-up attack on government opponents. Thousands of dissidents, moderate politicians, journalists and teachers were killed by right-wing death squads.

A coup in March 1982 brought down General Lucas and General Rios Montt assumed the presidency. Rios Montt pledged to effect reforms and return Guatemala to democracy. In fact, though killings continued in the countryside, the government did take steps to ease repression.

Earlier this year, Rios Montt was replaced in an almost bloodless coup by Humberto Mejia Victores.

EL SALVADOR

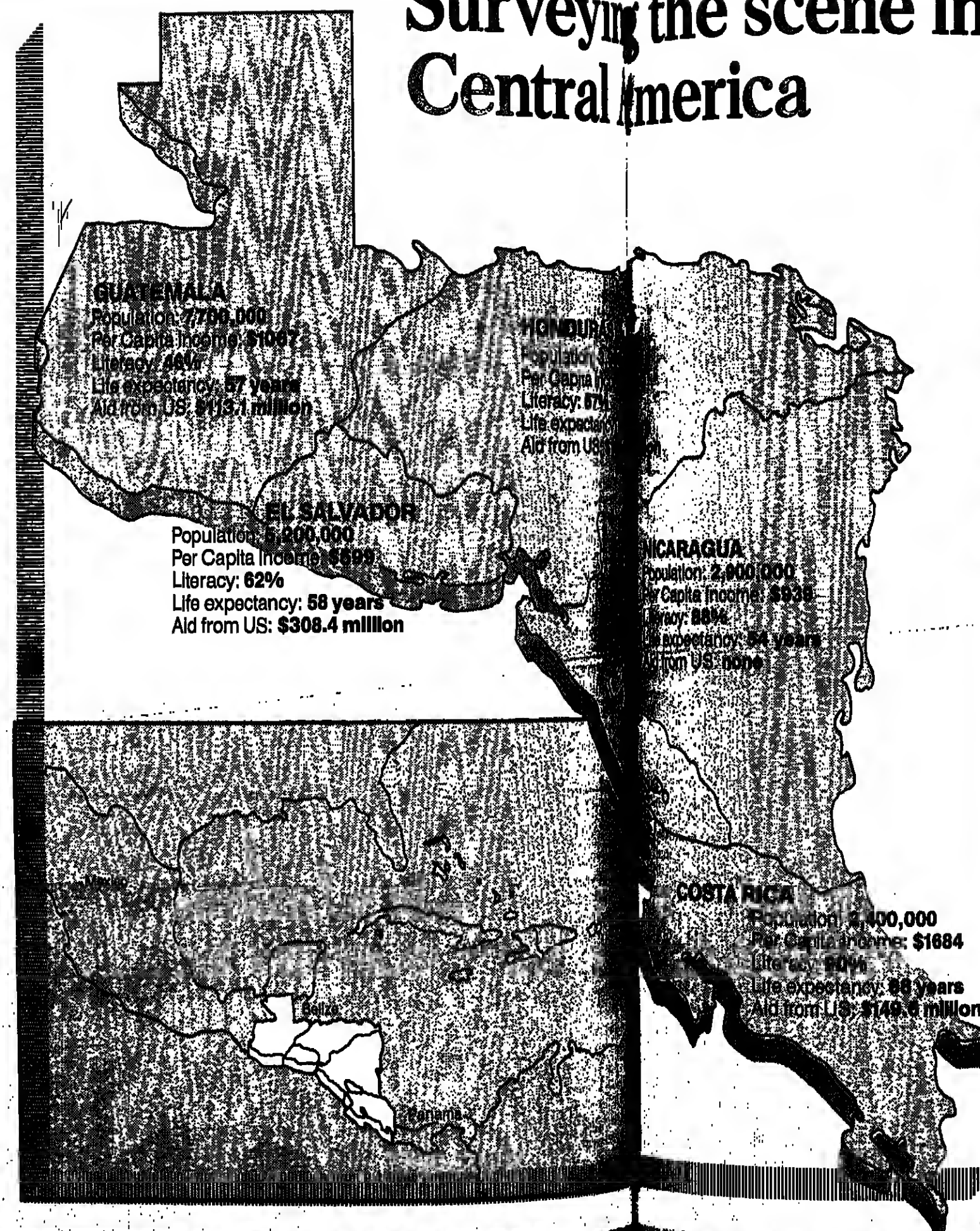
The smallest of the Central American countries, El Salvador is also one of the poorest and most densely populated. For the past three years, it has been plagued with a civil war that has claimed the lives of more than 80,000 people.

The civil war has brought the Salvadoran economy nearly to a halt. It is primarily aid from the United States that has prevented complete economic collapse.

In January 1981, a guerrilla alliance of leftist and non-Marxist liberals launched what it called a "final offensive" against the government, then led by Christian Democratic President Napoleon Duarte. The offensive was unsuccessful and, shortly afterward, the United States began to increase its military aid to the Salvadoran government.

Right-wing parties increased their political power in the 1982 elections, and the resulting abandonment of attempts at social reform, primarily the land reform program, increased popular support for the rebels. In spite of US pressure, rightist elements have continued to block social change.

In recent months, right-wing death squads have again stepped up their campaign of political assassinations.



NICARAGUA

The Nicaraguan Revolution of 1979 deposed Anastasio Somoza Debayle, head of a family that had oppressively ruled the country for more than 45 years.

Victorious Sandinista rebels established a five-member junta, led by Daniel Ortega Saavedra and including two non-Sandinistas, that had broad popular support. As the Sandinistas consolidated power, however, the revolution was radicalized and moderate elements grew disillusioned.

Though the United States continued a modest program of economic aid after the

Sandinistas took power, all assistance was cut off in 1981, when the Reagan administration accused Nicaragua of supplying Salvadoran guerrillas with arms and supplies. Nicaragua has turned to Cuba and the Soviet Union for military and economic aid.

Currently, Nicaragua faces growing economic difficulties and decreasing support at home. At the same time, it is trying to cope with its own guerrilla opposition—that of US-sponsored Nicaraguan exiles who are launching attacks from bases in Honduras and Costa Rica.

HONDURAS

Despite being the poorest country in Central America, Honduras has remained relatively calm through the last few years of turmoil in the region.

Though the military still retains a great deal of influence in the country, civilian rule was reinstituted in 1980 with the election of Roberto Suazo Cordova to the presidency.

Because of its geographic location, however, Honduras has been increasingly viewed as an important player in the Central American drama. Sharing long borders with both Nicaragua and El Salvador, the two hot spots in the region, Honduras has been pulled into the web of instability. It is host to the great majority of anti-Sandinista forces attempting, with United States' support, to bring down the Nicaraguan government.

Honduras also has been the site of a recent US military exercise, known as "Big Pine," which many see as a thinly disguised warning to the Nicaraguans and Cubans. The US also recently opened facilities in Honduras for the training of Salvadoran officers.

COSTA RICA

The oldest democracy in Latin America, Costa Rica held its first free elections in 1898. The country, currently led by President Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez, has also traditionally had the highest standard of living in the region.

Costa Rica's economy, based largely upon agricultural products (coffee, bananas and sugar), was hard hit by the world recession and the country was forced to suspend repayment of its \$3.3 billion foreign debt in 1981. President Monge, elected in 1982, instituted an austerity program to get the country back on its feet.

Costa Rica's reputation for stability and political tolerance has also made it the sanctuary of choice for exiles, of both the left and the right, from surrounding countries. Currently, Nicaragua has been pressuring Costa Rica to prevent anti-Sandinista guerrillas from conducting operations across their common border.

Costa Rica, which disbanded its army in 1948, has a civil guard of approximately 3000 men and a rural guard of 2500.

AP/WIDE WORLD

1914: Panama Canal opened.	1924: General Anastasio Somoza Garcia, trained by the US to head Nicaraguan National Guard, assassinates Sandino and establishes a military dictatorship. Somoza family would rule the country until 1979.	1961: President Kennedy announces Alliance for Progress.	1970s: Honduras and El Salvador accept an OAS police force on their troubled borders. They negotiate a peace settlement in 1971.
1928: US Marines intervene in El Salvador.	1932: Nicaraguan Augusto Sandino begins his fight against American occupation.	1967: Wave of terrorism and civil strife begins in Guatemala.	1977: Presidential elections in El Salvador are marked by violence and a threat of civil war.
1931: Crisis of independence erupts in Honduras. Succession problems in 1932 and 1937.	1934: Organization of American States is founded on April 30.	1968: US Ambassador John Gordon Meier assassinated during kidnapping attempt in Guatemala.	1977: El Salvador's army and guerrillas agree to a ceasefire.
1936: Guatemalan President Jacobo Arbenz is overthrown in a US-sponsored coup. Colonel Carlos Castillo Arrias assumes power.	1952: President working in El Salvador is reportedly assassinated by the government.	1969: El Salvador's military and guerrillas agree to a ceasefire.	1979: Sandinista revolutionaries overthrow Somoza family in Nicaragua.
1954: United States and Central American governments launch Yalta Project to fight Yagoua movement.	1960: US military intervention in El Salvador.	1971: President Kennedy is assassinated.	1979: Sandinista revolutionaries overthrow Somoza family in Nicaragua.

Officially it is a dead language. But only officially.

By Jon Stewart
Special to WorldPaper

CARDIFF, WALES—Four-year-old Lyn Mererid Saunders may already have earned herself a niche in history: she is probably the first "native" speaker of the Cornish language in some 200 years.

Not only is Lyn fluent in the "dead" language of Cornwall, which her father learned as an adult, she is equally fluent in her mother's first language, Welsh, already an old language in Chaucer's time. Lyn has not been exposed to English in her home, thanks to her parents' efforts to "bypass the ideology of the English-speaking world."

Lyn Saunders is only one of the more remarkable products of a linguistic revolution sweeping through many of the indigenous cultural minorities of Europe, mainly peoples who inhabit the geographic and economic peripheries of the large nation-states. Forgotten or actively suppressed by the 19th and early 20th century zealots of political centralization and cultural homogenization, the "native" minorities of Western Europe are reasserting their identities with a powerful combination of "parole et plastique," as they say in France, or language and bombs.

Headlines in daily newspapers reflect only one side of the often violent campaign by minority peoples to reassert their ancient but still viable cultural

identities. The other side, the revival of dying minority languages, is probably the more important, if less publicized, aspect that has been shaking up the fringe regions of Europe since World War II.

In Paris, young activists from Brittany recently occupied the Alliance Française, the citadel of the French language, to press demands for the teaching of their native language in Breton schools. Nearly a half million Bretons live in Paris; although they are French citizens, their language is treated by education authorities as a foreign tongue, no different from Arabic or Swahili. In Brittany itself, parents who want their children to learn to read and write Breton had to start their own nursery school movement, known as "Diwenn," because the French government refused to provide funds for bilingual schools.

Versions of the Diwan schools have also appeared in the Basque country, in German-speaking French Alsace, in Corsica, Occitania (southern France), Northern Ireland, Scotland, Friesland (off the Dutch and German coasts), Italian Friuli-Venezia, Sardinia, and the Dutch region of northeast France. Most of the schools receive little or no government support, since most central governments view them as breeding grounds for tomorrow's separatist terrorists.

Terence O'Brien and Antony Alcock, who recently wrote a comprehensive report on the status of European minority

languages for the European Economic Community, view the motivations behind the language movements as completely normal. "Cultural well-being," they assert, "is becoming as important as prosperity, and the consequence is a renewed interest in regional traditions and languages, however limited they may seem to be."

Nowhere is the linguistic revival movement more potent and successful than here in Wales, where the ancient language has been in steady decline ever since the English first tried to stamp it out in the 18th century. The revival of the Welsh language is the central strategy of this active and increasingly powerful Welsh nationalist movement.

The current wave of political nationalism in Wales, with its emphasis on the language revival, began only 21 years ago with a radio lecture by Saunders Lewis entitled "Tynged yr Iaith," the Fate of the Language. It sparked a fire that has since flared in massive protests on behalf of the language, taking a variety of forms including the painting out of English-only road signs, the burning of 60 English-owned "second homes" in Wales, and mass refusals to pay television license fees, which brought hundreds of people stiff fines. Gwenfor Evans, the grand old man of Welsh nationalism, even declared a hunger strike to the death two years ago if the British government didn't give Wales a Welsh-language TV station.

Today, although only one out of five Welshmen can speak the native language, it is enjoying a remarkable renaissance. The long-awaited Welsh TV channel is broadcasting 22 hours Welsh-language programming each week, all in prime time. "The new Welsh Channel 4," wrote the British Economist, "has confounded the skeptics, including The Economist, by pulling nearly 60 percent of the potential audience for some of its programs in the Welsh language."

Says Channel 4 director Owen Edwards, "We've shown that TV can be an ally, not just an enemy, of minority languages. In fact, we're bringing greater harmony and unity to Wales as a whole."

Ironically, the 1981 census showed the number of Welsh speakers actually increasing in the most Anglicized areas, while it continues to decline in traditional Welsh-speaking areas. One explanation is the number of English people moving into rural Wales, a phenomenon that has left many Welsh villages and towns with up to 90 percent of all homes

owned by non-Welsh speakers who merely visit on holidays.

The explanation for the increase of Welsh speakers in heavily Anglicized places like Cardiff lies largely in the fact that the new bilingual Welsh schools have proven vastly superior to the English-only schools. "Learning Welsh," says Edwards, "is almost the 'in thing' in Cardiff today; it's a status thing."

Wales, in fact, has become a kind of linguistic beacon for minority language regions throughout Europe. It is the only place where an intense public demand for government support of native languages has really paid off to the extent of possibly reversing the decline. In Brittany, by contrast, the one-third of the population speaking Breton as a first language must make do with a mere 22 hours of TV broadcasting in Breton during an entire year. In Northern Ireland there is no Irish-language broadcasting even though 27,000 children are learning the language in schools. In fact, the Irish language is seeing its greatest revival not in the schools or in broadcasting but in prisons like Long Kesh, where all Irish Republican Army prisoners learn the language for secret communications.

Given the current policies of most central governments regarding the languages of the peripheries, experts are not sanguine about their long-term survival. "The present crisis is acute," declared O'Brien and Alcock in their EEC study. "In 20 years time...the life force of many of these languages may have diminished beyond hope of resuscitation." They called for major EEC financial support to promote increased use of minority languages in broadcasting and teaching in Wales.

Why make the effort? Because, say the language activists, the native speech of a nation is the ultimate repository of all culture. Lose the language and one loses the culture, and with it the nation itself.

As a Breton in Rennes remarked: "When enough Bretons make contact with the sense of being Breton—and that can only come through the language—then Brittany may live again. If not, then there is no Brittany any longer."

Or, as the Welsh proverb has it: "Cenedl heb iaith, cenedl heb galon"—a nation without a language is a nation without a heart.

Jon Stewart is an editor at Pacific News Service. His research was assisted by Gernah Marshall.

'Comment? Moi, speeding?' as they say in Quebec

By Anthony Westell
Associate Editor in North America

OTTAWA—In a case pending before the Supreme Court of Canada, Roger Billore, a French-speaking Canadian from the province of Manitoba, argues that a speeding ticket he received is invalid because the law on which it was based was published only in English. If he wins, the province may have to translate into French some 4000 laws originally passed only in English.

Though this case may seem more humorous than serious, it is representative of the sensitivity of the minority of French-speaking citizens in a largely English-speaking Canada. At the extreme, the language problem has led to the near-secession from Canada of the one province where the French speakers are in the majority, Quebec.

Although French had its place in the official life and homes of the people of Quebec, the language of business and work was English. As a minority in Canada, and neighbor of the powerful United States, Quebecers felt English to be encroaching on them, and their own language and culture always to be in danger. Nationalist leaders urged that they could be secure only if they were a sovereign political state.

This nationalism based on language and culture flared up strongly in the 1960s in what became known as the Quiet Revolution, and English-speaking Canada realized there was a real danger that Quebec would break away from the confederation unless it could be satisfied that its language and distinctive way of life were secure within Canada.

Pierre Trudeau, a French-Canadian from Montreal, became federal prime minister in 1968 partly because he seemed to have the answer to the problem: not more powers for the province of Quebec that might edge it toward separation, but more rights for the French language everywhere in Canada so that Quebecers would not be prisoners in their own provincial ghetto but able to make full use of Canada.

The Official Languages Act guaranteed the equal status of French and English in the federal government and administration. He employed hundreds of French-speaking civil servants and made French language training available to thousands of English-speaking officials. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation was encouraged to provide French-language radio and TV across the country, and federal subsidies assisted the provincial governments in improving the teaching of French in the schools.

The rights of the French-language speakers were further guaranteed by entrenchment in a Charter of Rights and Liberties in a new Canadian constitution adopted last year. In addition, one province, New Brunswick, which has a substantial French-speaking population, declared itself officially bilingual.

While all this has upset many English-speaking Canadians (a common complaint is that they don't like seeing both French and English on their breakfast cereal boxes), it has not satisfied the strong nationalists and separatists in Quebec. The Parti Québécois won provincial office in 1976 promising to lead Quebec out of the confederation as the only way to pre-

serve language and culture. The government did put through a stiff language law making French the official language of the province, but it could not sell the idea of separation, which was rejected two votes to one in a provincial referendum.

Some English-speaking Quebecers have left the province, and corporations have moved their head offices to Toronto and other English-speaking cities. But it is now widely accepted in Canada that

Quebec, including the great city of Montreal, is French speaking rather than bilingual. So the curious situation has arisen that while significant numbers of English-speaking Canadians are learning French and becoming bilingual, Quebecers are reverting to unilingualism.

The numbers of Quebecers having French as their only language rose from 3.7 million in 1971 to 3.8 million in 1981. The number claiming French as their

mother tongue—that is, language first learned and still spoken—rose from 4.9 million to 5.2 million.

Outside Quebec, however, the French language appears to be in decline, despite all efforts to preserve it.

Anthony Westell is political analyst for the Toronto Star and professor of journalism at Carleton University in Ottawa.

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The routes have changed but the drugs keep coming

By Arun Chacko
Associate Editor in South Asia

NEW DELHI—In early July a teenage girl returning home to India by train after attending her sister's wedding in Pakistan seemed a bit nervous. She was stopped by customs officials at the border who discovered 11 kilograms of hashish and 900 grams of heroin in her suitcase.

Why should anyone want to smuggle narcotics to India, where for centuries they've been easily obtainable at ridiculously low prices? There is a very good reason.

Following fierce American pressure, Pakistan has curbed its clandestine, though widespread, narcotics exports to the West. Now Afghan and Pakistani drugs which used to be distributed abroad mainly through Karachi, Peshawar and Quetta in Pakistan are being shipped through Bombay.

Jasjit Singh, the Indian representative on the International Narcotics Control Board has admitted that large quantities of heroin were obviously passing through India, but he conceded there were no precise estimates of the drug trade. Officially believe, however, that several billion dollars' worth of drugs are being routed westward through Bombay by international smuggling syndicates.

Carriers like the arrested teenage girl are invariably small-time. The major operators, none of whom have yet been identified much less caught, continue to transport huge quantities with the aid of corrupt government officials and diplomats. Heroin, hashish, morphine and cocaine are getting into India across the long unpatrolled Indo-Pakistan border, and then taken to Bombay by road and rail for distribution to international markets.

Since 1979, Southwest Asia has replaced the "golden triangle"—Thailand, Burma and Laos—as the major source of heroin for Western Europe. The shift is spotlighted in a report of a recent meeting of the United Nations Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic. "Pakistan had consistently made considerable seizures of heroin during 1982," it stated. "Nevertheless, despite these seizures... 80 percent of seizures made in Western Europe in 1982 were apparently of the drug manufactured in Southwest Asia (Pakistan and Afghanistan)."

Elsewhere the report stated, "The basic sources of supply of illicit opium and of cannabis and its preparations were the tribal territories of the North West Frontier Province and adjoining areas."

In the last year tribal Pakistan and adjoining areas of Afghanistan have supplied 85 to 90 percent of all heroin sold in New York City, and at least 50 percent of

total US supplies. In the last two years, Pakistani officials have seized two tons of pure heroin—roughly 50 percent of total US annual consumption. But they admit that two or three times that amount has been secreted in mountain areas. Armies of Pakistani smugglers will ensure that it crosses the border into India, and from there to Bombay and the West.

A major factor in India's sudden eminence in the field is that Pakistan has taken stern steps to control the production and flow of narcotics abroad. Since 1979, Pakistan's area under opium poppy cultivation has been reduced from 32,000 hectares to about 3,500 hectares, and production of raw opium has dropped from an estimated 800 tons to about 50 or 60 tons.

Where then are all the narcotics coming from? The fact is that enormous amounts of opium are still grown by tribals in Afghanistan who straddle both sides of a border they have never recognized. And they bring the opium to Pakistan to be converted into heroin.

Interestingly, heroin in Pakistan was virtually unknown until 1979, though opium always was produced there. In a

bid to reduce opium production and consumption, licensed opium shops were shut and users, producers and traders prosecuted under stiff Islamic laws. And a record opium crop caused the price in tribal areas to crash by 75 percent. Producers and traders were stuck with the huge stocks, unable to sell anything.

In mid-1980, a technician quit the Pakistan Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and started illicit manufacture of heroin from opium. Raw opium prices once again began to soar. Other factors in the region also contributed to Pakistan's becoming a major heroin producer.

The "golden crescent"—Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan—had become a major heroin and opium outlet following the crackdown on the "golden triangle." But then the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan prevented the westward flow of Afghan and Pakistani opium to Iran and Turkey, where previously it had been made into heroin and re-exported. Also, the Iranian Revolution and stricter Turkish laws led to the shutdown of heroin production facilities there and their establishment in Pakistan. Today some of



that production has shifted to India, and clandestine Bombay laboratories now are reducing opium to heroin.

A report from the 30th session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs warns about the consequences of shifts in drug traffic. "A growing number of previously unaffected states were now reporting seizures of drugs in transit," it declared, "as professional trafficking groups persistently sought new routes to avoid detection. The links between drug trafficking and other areas of organized crime were becoming stronger in many parts of the world."

"As a consequence, smuggling operations, including methods of concealment, were becoming more sophisticated. In a number of countries, the profits from drug trafficking were being reinvested to support other criminal activity, including terrorism in some cases. Illegal assets were also being invested in legitimate businesses, thus facilitating the 'laundering' of such assets."

If Pakistan is a typical example, one of the great social dangers lies precisely in unaffected states suddenly becoming transit points. Before 1980, heroin abuse was not a problem in Pakistan. By 1982, officials admitted a minimum of 25,000 heroin addicts, though there were probably many more. With snowballing heroin production, experts say there will be as many as 1.8 million heroin addicts in Pakistan by 1990.

"Heroin addiction is spreading like an epidemic in Pakistan," the Herald Magazine of Karachi, which did a spectacular study of Pakistan's drug problem last November, quoted a Pakistan Narcotics Control Board official as saying. He added, "And though we are fighting to control it, we know that it is a battle we lost long ago."

Opium and other drugs have traditionally been consumed by addicts on the Indian subcontinent for centuries. But their numbers were never large. The frightening aspect about the recent Pakistani heroin addiction is that most addicts are teenagers or in their early twenties.

And today the disease is fast spreading in Bombay. Along with the drug traffic for export, there has been the inevitable proliferation of local drug users and drug dens, free from police interference. In fact, Bombay's cops are doing precious little to stop their city from becoming a major distribution point. The beginnings of an immense social problem are clearly visible in a region which already has too many.

With worldwide street sales profits from heroin estimated at around US\$200 billion annually, against \$12 billion for law enforcement, "hard economic facts of life dictate that the unequal struggle will become progressively less equal," German Seneviratne points out in his pamphlet on Opium Poppy Substitution for the UN Fund for Drug Abuse Control. But there are ways to alleviate the problem.

"The empirical fact is," Seneviratne observes, "that the poppy is illicitly cultivated almost exclusively by communities to whom it is the best—if not the only possible cash crop, in conditions in which all other crops are either nonviable or become so as the productivity of the soil continues to decline. An essential part of the challenge is to help and reverse the decline, to set up the infrastructure which would make other crops viable."

Given the magnitude of the problem, this would seem a pretty modest measure. But in the absence of any other effective solution, it might offer the only hope.

Arun Chacko, former chief reporter for the Indian Express, is a freelance journalist.

Is Tanaka's guilt Japan's too?

By Yoshiko Sakurai
Associate Editor in Northeast Asia

On October 12, seven years after the original indictment, the Tokyo District Court found former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka guilty of accepting a bribe of 500 million yen (US\$2.1 million) from Lockheed, a US corporation. He was sentenced to a four-year jail term at hard labor and ordered to pay a fine equivalent to the bribe. The verdict, which Tanaka has appealed, created shock waves in political circles Japanese society as a whole, however, appears little, if at all, affected.

TOKYO—In a recent poll 57 percent of the college students surveyed agreed that former Prime Minister Tanaka had contributed in a positive way to the nation. Among the most often cited points were his role restoring diplomatic links with China, public construction projects, such as highways and railways, and his efforts to revitalize the Japanese people in the post-war years. Other polls show him ranking as a popular hero.

Some critics say this reaction is a joke and a sarcastic one at that. Yet when current social trends are considered, it is clear that Mr. Tanaka's money-power politics has spread throughout Japanese society.

One of the most notorious cases involves medical students who are not bright enough to enter college in the usual fashion, but who have rich parents. The custom of backdoor admissions, known as "uraguchi nyugaku," is widely practiced and prices are openly quoted at various universities. The "donation" over and above the regular entrance and tuition fees can go as high as \$200,000.

In one of the latest scandals to come to light, the Metropolitan Police Department uncovered a case in which a professor of the Tokyo Medical and Dental University and member of its faculty screening committee had accepted yen 5 million (\$21,000) from a "candidate" seeking a professorial appointment.

In everyday business, meanwhile, lavish amounts of money are thought "necessary" to smooth the way for deals with clients. For example, in 1981, Japanese businesses spent yen 3.3 trillion (\$14.3 billion) on entertaining clients. This amounts to about \$39.3 million a day for dining, wining, golfing and gift-giving in the name of business.

On this level at least, the seven-year trial of the former prime minister has had no impact.

Why then is Japan the only country to have taken such a scandal through the courts to the point of handing a verdict of guilty to a former leader?

The answer is partly that without a foreign press pursuing the issue in Japan, Tanaka's crime might never have been proven. His downfall began when a freelance journalist, Takashi Tachibana, wrote a long account of Tanaka's dark business dealings. The report was ignored by the Japanese media at first.

At the time, however, Tanaka happened to be delivering a speech at a luncheon at the Foreign Correspondents Club, and the reporters kept shouting questions that cornered the former prime minister. The Japanese press quickly followed suit, and by late 1974, an anti-Tanaka campaign had gained so much momentum

that Tanaka was forced to quit as prime minister.

Again, at the Lockheed trial, this case was pursued by the prosecution in a very severe style. Law Professor Toyo Atsumi of Chuo University explains, "Japanese judicial circles want to avoid any criticism that the democratic process is below that of Western countries. In order to prove that the judiciary is free and independent, those inside judicial circles work even harder than their Western counterparts. The Lockheed ruling," he continues, "may become one of the most precious models of democracy at work in Japanese society. When democracy does not grow from the grassroots, we have to plant seeds from the top and hope they will eventually spread into a wider base in society."

The challenge is ahead—and it is a tough one because of the prevailing money-power syndrome. For instance, one-third of the general account of the national budget is allocated as "aid." The ruling party exploits this huge fund as a means to win votes. The system has created an environment where only those influential enough to grab a large chunk of the budget for their constituencies are considered worth voting for. The unusual growth of the faction of the ruling party led by Tanaka even while he was the key suspect in the Lockheed trial reflects the worst of the syndrome. The size of his faction—119 of the 422 Liberal Democrats in the Diet—is the largest ever witnessed by Japanese political circles. Tanaka also has the highest number of former bureaucrats-turned-politicians in his faction. Through these channels, Tanaka men have direct access to day-to-day government administration. Not only are they



Former Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, although sentenced to four years of hard labor for accepting a US\$2.1 million bribe, is still a strong political force.

able to advance the demands of their electorates, but they also are assured of enormous supplies of funds, particularly at election time. Young men have joined the faction in large numbers, certain of receiving more funds than their counterparts in other factions of the ruling party.

Meanwhile, the society at large has become more entangled with this money-power game. It appears there is no end to the pottern.

Yoshiko Sakurai co-anchors a news program on Nippon Television.

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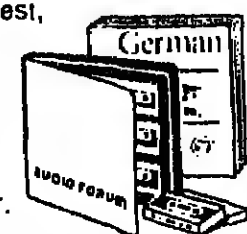
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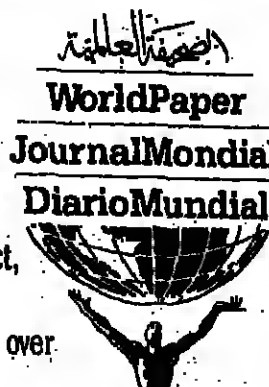
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(Continued)

France tends to its relations with Africa

By Jacqueline Grapin
Associate Editor in Western Europe

PARIS—For the people living in eastern France, September is an important month because it is the beginning of the hunting season. But this year they had to keep their guns in the closet.

About 30 African heads of state were due to arrive in the Vittel Club Med village at the beginning of October, and three rows of ground-to-air missiles were in place to protect the village. The president of the French Republic, François Mitterrand, occupied the house of the head of the village.

Since this French-African summit took place only a month and a half after the intervention of French troops in Chad, it would have been normal to think that the meeting would be devoted to the affairs of that country, but that was not the case. Of course, the timing proved very convenient, and Chad's President Hissene Habré almost stole the show. Libya's Muammar al-Qaddafi, although he was not present, also was very much on the minds of all the participants.

The conference was the tenth between

the French and African heads of state. Ten years ago, there were only 11 participants while this year there were 37, including 24 African presidents. As one participant put it, "There is no agenda, no votes on resolutions, no secretary-general to nominate—which usually are divisive issues in this kind of meeting. There are only political leaders who can freely talk

ish and French mandates, Algeria and Madagascar (which consider the meetings too dominated by France). But new countries join every year. This year, the Guinean leader Sékou Touré came, as well as representatives from Liberia, Zambia, and Kenya. The meetings, as a result, are no longer strictly limited to former French colonies in Africa.

Inevitably, the participants talked about the North-South dialogue, monetary ties, the stabilization of raw material prices and so on. France even proposed an emergency plan that combined assistance with profitable

Volta), Denis Sassou-Nguesso (Congo) and Félix Houphouët-Boigny (Ivory Coast) do not have the same opinion of the Libyan leader Qaddafi, at least they talk about the problem. The French said at the outset of the talks that "the solution must be an African one. France will not negotiate anything in the name of Chad. France has no enemies in Chad. It is simply bound by previous agreements. It is up to the Africans to negotiate, and to the OAU [Organization of African Unity] to carry out its responsibilities." France wants to believe that "Qaddafi is not our enemy, and he knows it. He does not want war with us. We don't want war either."

Of course, Paris tends to forget the 2500 paratroopers who were sent to Chad not in the name of the OAU but in the name of France. France dreams of a pan-African peace-keeping force that even could be financed by Paris and Tripoli. In other words, it would like to be able to leave Chad—where it never wanted to go in the first place—and to continue its peaceful policy of cooperation with Africa. Stronge situation (perhaps introducing the age of post-post-decolonization) when an interrupted dialogue is renewed in the common interest even though circumstances do not permit peaceful cooperation.

Jacqueline Grapin is a columnist for the French newspaper *Le Monde*.

The conference was the tenth between the French and African heads of state. Ten years ago, there were only 11 participants while this year there were 37.

about common problems without fear of eavesdropping."

A number of countries are never represented. These include Cameroon (which before independence was under both Brit-

investments in Africa, with the possible participation of other Western nations and Arab countries. But Chad, obviously, was at the center of the talks.

Even though Thomas Sankara (Upper

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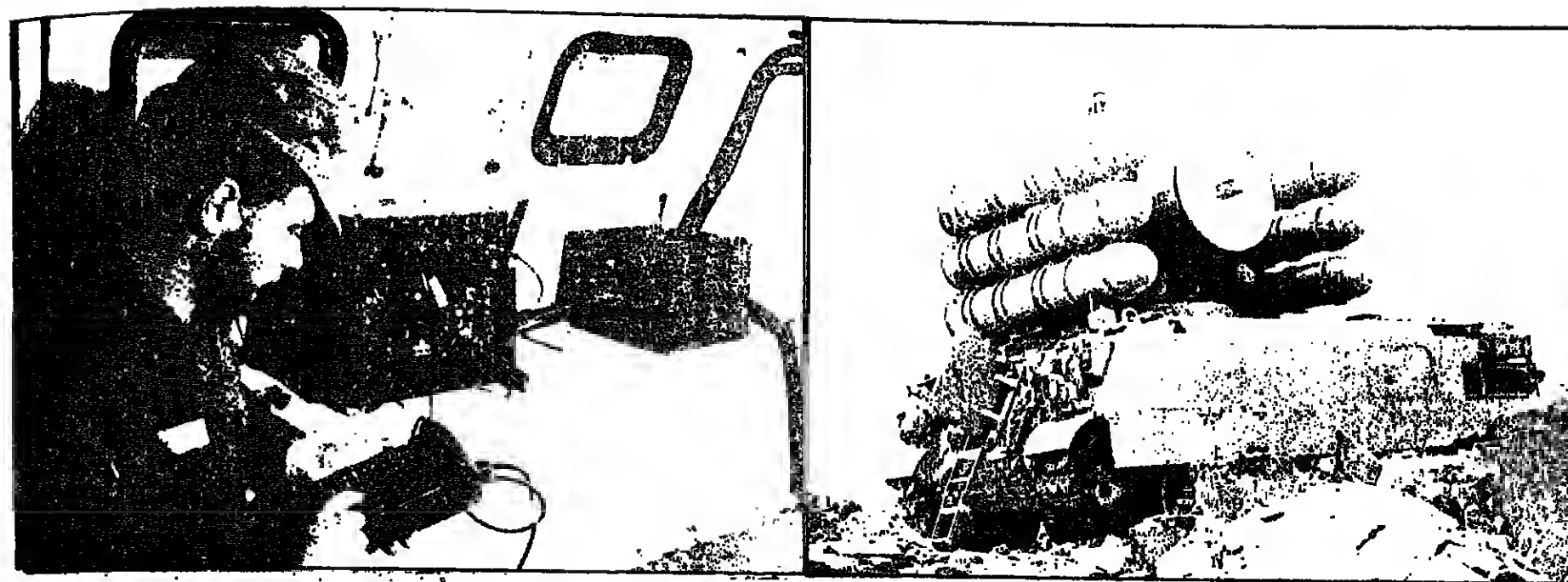
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French firm—Thomson-CSF becomes top weapons manufacturer

IN THE space of ten years, the share of electronics in the cost of a combat aircraft has risen from about 10 per cent to 30 per cent. And over the same time, from one generation of aircraft to the next, the number of individual electronic functions per unit volume has been multiplied 500-fold and the power of the airborne radar information processing systems 1,000-fold. These figures are some of the many examples of a profound technical and technological mutation which has significantly extended the activities of the electronic industry and equipment manufacturers.

In 1982, the turnover achieved by Thomson-CSF in the aeronautical and defence equipment sectors (aviation equipment, air defence systems, air defence control and defence systems, air defence weapons, simulator systems) exceeded US \$1,500 million compared with less than US \$100 million ten years ago, and at the same time, the share of exports has grown considerably. Today, Thomson-CSF is active in nine different countries through its subsidiaries and representatives, and nearly 60 per cent of the military hardware it produces is being shipped out of France armed forces.

Thomson-CSF is a leader in the development of offensive weapons systems on modern aircraft. It is increasingly dependent on the associated electronics. Thomson-CSF's objective has been to develop family hardware to cover all requirements, radar (search, tracking, identification, target discrimination), missile guidance, and weapon control systems.

Thomson-CSF has made progress in the development of a new generation of radar for the Mirage F1, the Agave radar which equips the Super Étendard and the Jaguar international spook heads for missiles (Olomat, Kormorn, Ariel for AS 10 L) and proximity fuzes for missiles and shells.

Two radars have been developed for the new Mirage 2000: the RDM, a multipurpose Doppler radar, entirely developed and produced by Thomson-CSF for the multirole version of the Mirage 2000; and the RDI, a Doppler pulse radar developed by Thomson-CSF in co-operation with ESD, which will be flight tested this year.

The Iguane, the Varan and the Guépard are the latest in the family of AS 10 L all-weather missiles (AS 10 L) which constitute a family of missiles suitable for equipping a variety of aircraft, such as the Mirage F1, the Guépard and the Guépard. All these missiles are supplemented by electronic warfare equipment (radar detector and jammer) that play a major role in the weapons systems of modern aircraft.

They are associated with head-up and head-down CRT cockpit displays which Thomson-CSF has developed for foreign manufacturers as well as for French aircraft. One of these displays is the head-up display (HUD) which will be manufactured by Thomson-CSF for the American company Hamilton. Thomson-CSF used this know-how for civil aircraft cockpits and produces the Electronic Instrument System (EIS), an unmatched technology which equips European aircraft.

Thomson-CSF is also a leader in the development of electronic warfare equipment (radar detector and jammer) that play a major role in the weapons systems of modern aircraft. They are associated with head-up and head-down CRT cockpit displays which Thomson-CSF has developed for foreign manufacturers as well as for French aircraft.

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troops and of commanding and controlling their interception.

Thomson-CSF, whose technical teams were among the first in the world to apply the principles of electromagnetic detection in various types of radar either stationary or mobile. Over the last ten years, Thomson-CSF has delivered or booked orders for nearly seven large fixed or mobile 3D defence radars, including stacked-beam radars (Palmer, Ares), phased-array radars featuring either antennas with reflectors or planar antennas.

Thomson-CSF's electronic warfare equipment (radar detector and jammer) that play a major role in the weapons systems of modern aircraft. They are associated with head-up and head-down CRT cockpit displays which Thomson-CSF has developed for foreign manufacturers as well as for French aircraft.

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this year), with an effective range of more than 10 km. A few days ago, the French Ministry of Defence, Thomson-CSF and Aerospatiale have just decided to study an anti-aircraft missile weapon system which would be available as either a naval (SAS 90) or a land-based system (SAS 90). In such case, Thomson-CSF is responsible for the radar and fire control aspects.

Besides producing these anti-aircraft missiles, Thomson-CSF is also responsible for the radar and fire control aspects. Thomson-CSF is also a leader in the development of electronic warfare equipment (radar detector and jammer) that play a major role in the weapons systems of modern aircraft. They are associated with head-up and head-down CRT cockpit displays which Thomson-CSF has developed for foreign manufacturers as well as for French aircraft.

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The main family of equipments to render tactical radio links more secure and more efficient in electronic warfare environments consists of tactical message terminals such as the TRC 743. This hand-held terminal—about the size of VHF walkie-talkie—makes it possible to prepare messages on an alphanumeric keyboard and then to transmit them in very short bursts, thereby limiting the risk of detection or jamming. Designed for observation and intelligence gathering missions, it permits direct utilization of data by means of command and control and artillery automation like the tactical radio units available from Thomson-CSF and consists of a transmitter and receiver in the 100 MHz/FM/SSB band. It has a real-time processing capability for all types of tactical data, and every

Thomson-CSF is also a leader in the development of electronic warfare equipment (radar detector and jammer) that play a major role in the weapons systems of modern aircraft. They are associated with head-up and head-down CRT cockpit displays which Thomson-CSF has developed for foreign manufacturers as well as for French aircraft.

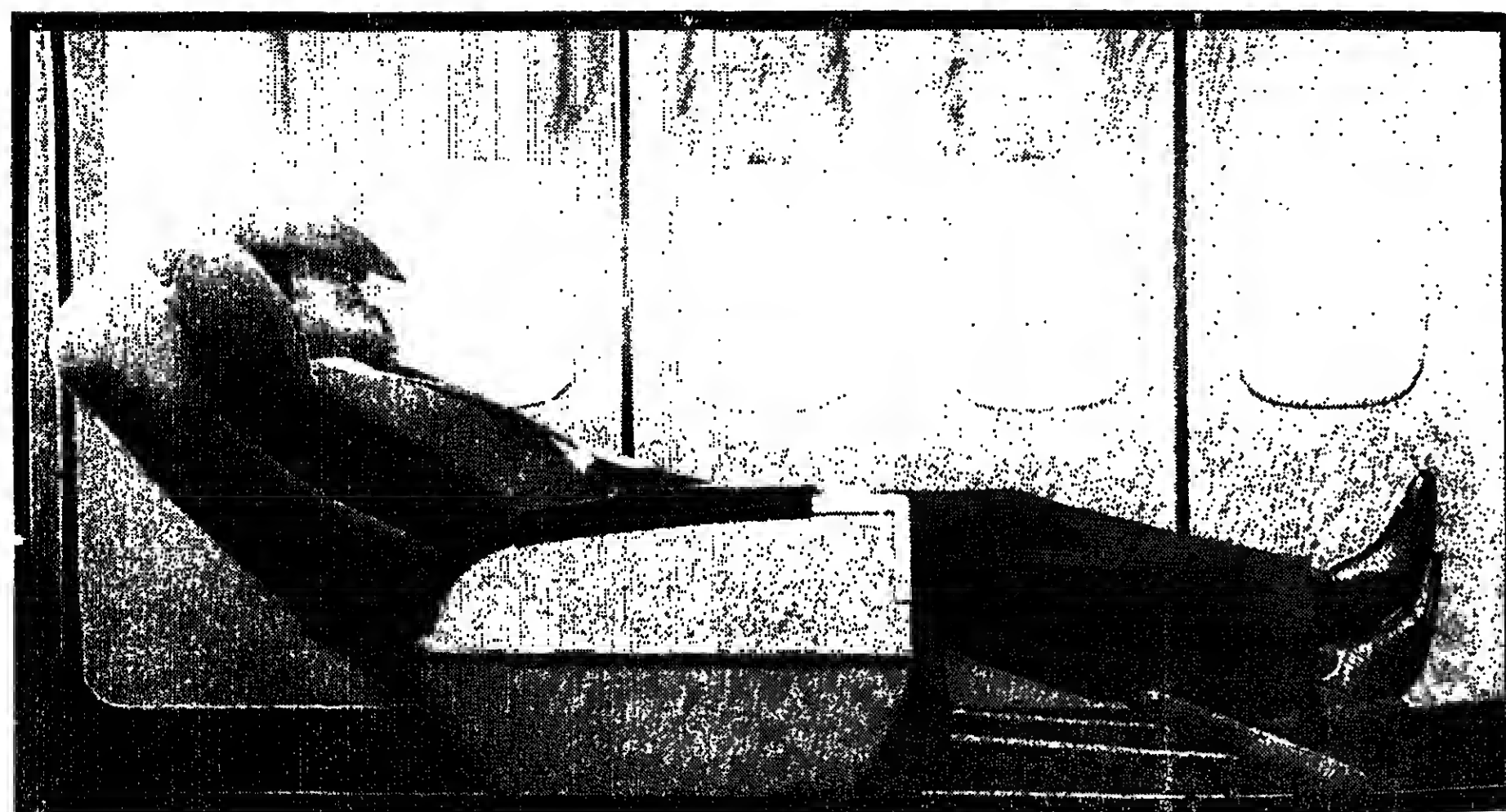
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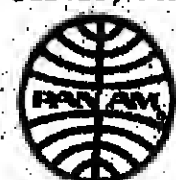
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arts



Fahrelnissa Ra'ad (Jordanian period)



Absolute Essence (Jordanian period)



Suha Shorman (Jordanian period)

Princess Fahrelnissa retrospective

A long, rich and creative life

By Vanessa Batrouni
Special to the Star

THE Royal Cultural Centre has staged a monumental exhibition of paintings that cover the walls and hallways and exhibition rooms of the Centre and testify to the long, rich and creative life of Princess Fahrelnissa.

The viewer is immediately struck by the intense colours, dense patterns and generous paintwork that reflect the magnetic and forceful personality from whom they have sprung.

Unlike many artists who produce cerebral, intellectual works divorced from the stuff of their souls, the princess has never been afraid to open the gates to her inner being and let the flood of her conscious and subconscious self flow through.

At every twist and tragic turn, she has poured out her pain and her love and her faith in the absolute. Her art has carried her through a hostile world and a testing time, broken through social prejudices and buoyed her through crushing illness. It is impossible to prize the Princess from her work, pieces of herself are there, displayed on canvas. The princess, her life and her art are one.

Working from this premise, we can trace her path of individuation through her painting, from a veiled youngster to an accomplished and liberated woman of the twentieth century.

Princess Fahrelnissa was born in Istanbul in 1901. Her father was a high-ranking officer in the Turkish army and her uncle a Grand Vizir of the Empire. She succeeded in stepping out of a dying era

and planting herself firmly in an age of science and enlightenment with its concomitant expressions in art, her brilliant intuitions at times preconceiving modern notions.

Freed from some of the crippling social bondages of the Ottoman world by the reforms of Kamal Ataturk, the gifted princess, whose early watercolours showed great promise, began formal training at the Fine Arts Academy in Istanbul while still a young woman of nineteen. Later she continued her studies at the Academy Ranson in Paris in 1927.

Spiritual growth

Princess Fahrelnissa became aware of an inner self struggling to free itself in her middle twenties and her sense of spiritual growth and incipient maturation is present in many early paintings symbolised by knotted, trunked trees that spread their branches over the canvas overwhelming the area from a solid centre, dwarfing its surroundings and the activities of human beings. The luxurious interiors too, of brocaded rooms not only spring from a Turkish tradition of studied detail, but also tell of imaginative wealth deep inside herself.

She did not produce in earnest though until the nineteen forties when married to Prince Zeid Ben El Hussein. Then she found the opportunities to isolate herself and paint, despite her time being compromised by her duties as the wife of an ambassador.

Shutting herself off in dark rooms, the princess uses solitude to tap her artistic powers before attacking a canvas with pencil and brush. Far from being a calm

exercise, the princess considers the act of painting a battle which she executes in a frenzied rush, never knowing if the outcome is victorious till she has finished, usually exhausted by the procedure.

Several years of illness, spent in a sanatorium in Bidnusi, preceded this artistic activity. Painting helped to resuscitate her ailing spirit but pictures from this period such as *A Winter's Day* speak of gloom and greyed atmospheres while others such as *Three Moments in a Day* and *A Life* are a witness to a mental disorientation and strangled vitality, trees reduced to sinewy lifeless threads, and landscapes, an eye to the future, bare and unyielding.

In 1944, the princess decided to go public, exhibiting her large figurative pieces at her own home in Turkey. In those crowded scenes packed with detail, best discerned at a distance, we can already see the beginnings of a loosening of form.

New form

In gatherings of minute figures at carnivals and outings, sometimes grouped in Bosch like fantasia (*Three Ways of Living*), the forms are suggested by hurried and careless strokes that infuse the whole fabric with energy and light. The forms are already descending into ribbons and dancing molecules of rich colour, while landscapes, as in *Loch Lomond*, are joined together in angular lozenges, accentuating tangents and planes.

It seems a small step to total abstraction but the princess maintains she resisted this natural progress until she realised that speed and space and other non-tangibles could not be successfully laid down in figurative form.

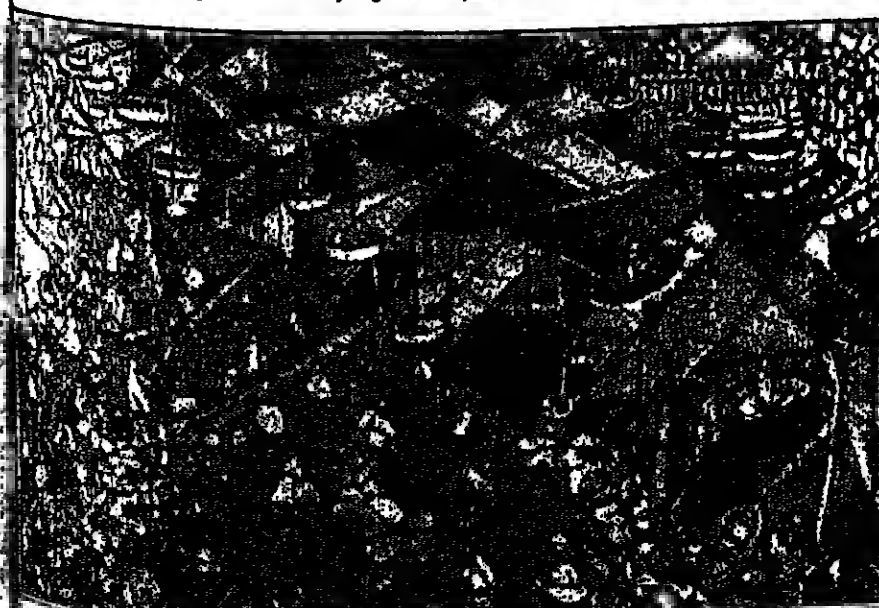
By the 1950s, Princess Fahrelnissa had submitted herself entirely to abstraction. By now she was living between London and Paris, holding prestigious soirees and exhibiting periodically at well known galleries.

Her social position proved to be both helpful and hindering. Travelling and residing in Europe with Prince Zeid, had expanded her contacts, but her status as princess and woman barred her acceptance into the male world of serious art.

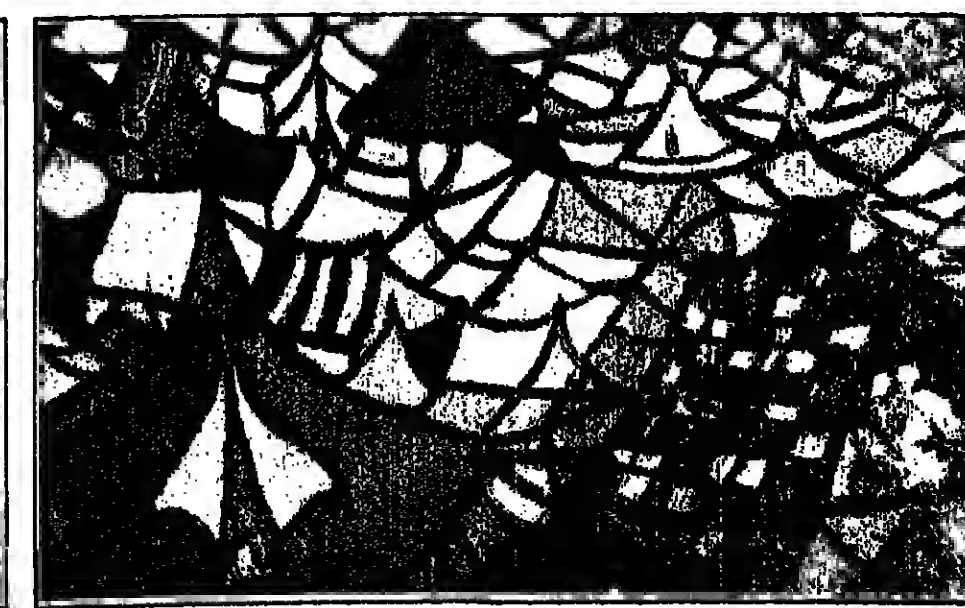
Notwithstanding this frustration, her work and development continued unabated. Her canvases become magnificently large and confident as her creativity expanded and burst all bounds. Complicated abstract patterns, shattered explosions of colours heavily lined, relating events, personal reactions and moods around the eye with their intricate weaving. At times she discards all lines and submerges shapes in a lake of throbbing colour, vibrating so loud they can almost be heard, reducing form to a primordial state of non-being.

Throughout this time the princess painted portraits and, although abstraction came to influence their distinctive style, their peculiar stamp can be traced back to the sumptuous and decorative interiors of her earlier years.

Aiming at portraying the essentials of her models and not in reproducing their exterior forms, she captures a wide eyed and startled pose. Stripping the outer personalities of their defences, adjustments and masks she returns them to an innocent state. The richly coloured garments of these persons and their generous features suggest receptive and richly fabricated souls.



Loch Lomond, the transition from the figurative to the abstract



Tents, Scotland (London period)

arts

Painter urges return to values

By Amal Ghandour
Special to the Star

FOR ISSAM Alsaïd, internationally known Iraqi painter, "Arab art has long lost its Eastern, Islamic origins. Now it is searching for its identity, no differently from Arab society searching for its national self-hood."

Mr. Alsaïd was not born an artist. He was not exposed to art until he was fourteen years old and went to an exhibition of work by Princess Fahrelnissa in London. "It was an echo of temple," he says and until this day he finds in the princess and her work a great inspiration.

In 1958 he entered Cambridge to study architecture. Upon his graduation, he worked for six weeks, only to realize he couldn't identify with an architectural system which, he felt, negated his own values and principles. It was then that he became genuinely interested in Islamic art and architecture.

He says "Islamic art embodies a system of inherited values and principles that unifies all work. It is a methodology akin to scientific work. Because it is geometric it is self-correcting. This is called symmetry. Because it is measurable, everything is balanced. The basic geometric pattern is one and the same, but the combinations are infinite."

He suggests that the Arabs started equating such traditionalism with illiteracy. The colonial experience, and subsequent infiltration of the Western cul-

ture, distorted Arab Islamic traditions. Arab art became obsessed with imitating Western artistic trends at the expense of its own. Unable to fully identify with Western art, and not convinced of their own artistic worth, Arab artists became like "freaks."

For Mr. Alsaïd Islamic art combines theory and practice, it does not dedicate itself only to theory as in the West, but places as much emphasis on the utilitarian side. This is the beauty of Islamic art which captured and impressed him.

Mr. Alsaïd finds this very disturbing and he says it is necessary for Arab artists to appreciate their indigenous culture. According to him many Arab artists are still following the beaux-arts or Modern Movement, which he believes have no cultural relevance in the Arab world.

In architecture he believes the Arab world is following the Western mode of separating theory and practice. The architect sits behind his desk drawing out his theories, leaving the practical part to the construction worker himself: a pure imitation of the Western architect. Mr. Alsaïd argues that the architect cannot split what is a unified system.

Home values

He believes that in order for the Arab painter or architect to become true to and honest in his work, "he should learn one system scientifically and he stops asking the West to judge him by its system."

Mr. Alsaïd insists that neither system is

better than the other, but he believes that a person's vision of beauty and harmony can only be translated from his own homegrown values.

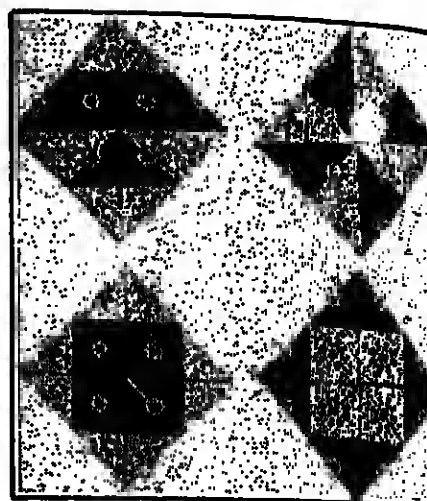
He cites the example of Abstract art which he says has been abused by modern painters in both the Arab world and the West. Mr. Alsaïd defines abstract art as "the most economic way of expressing ideas that you cannot express in words." But in modern times, artists have been encouraged to develop their own language to an excessive degree.

The obsession with that which is "original," left new abstract artwork exposed, with no system or balance of values. Mr. Alsaïd concludes that the painter began translating without a balance and thus lost the harmony which is generated from it.

Mr. Alsaïd urged all Jordanians to visit Princess Fahrelnissa's current exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre which he says presents the ultimate beauty in balanced abstract art.

He disagrees with a statement made recently by a visiting Egyptian painter that "Arab art is uniform in theme, though it may vary in technique," Mr. Alsaïd says, "everything is relative. There is nothing absolute."

In his view reality is the theme, but there are various manifestations of it. For example he says, there is no such thing as an Arab home. But there is an Egyptian, Iraqi, or Moroccan home. They are all houses, but the local cultural tint gives each its own style.



For Issam Alsaïd the geometric pattern offers infinite possibilities

Each painter has "his own point of view and outlook, through which themes vary." Each one sees reality from a different perspective, so how can the theme be one and the same, he asks?

Mr. Alsaïd, who is presently completing his Ph.D. in architecture at Newcastle, England, is one of the few Arab painters to have broken into the international art scene. Since he dedicated himself to painting, he has found immediate success. He is on the list of artists represented in Christie's "Contemporary Art", a centre for contemporary prints in England. He was also commissioned in 1976 by the World of Islam Festival group to write a book on Islamic Art entitled "The Geometric Concept in Islamic Art"

Dancer delights in her art

By Najwa Kefay
Special to the Star

LEBANESE belly dancer Zena Refat who has been performing in Amman in recent weeks, says she had to give up all contact with her family for ten years in order to pursue her art.

Zena says "I came from a very conservative country family and my father would never have accepted the idea of his daughter becoming a belly dancer." But, for Zena, dancing was an art for which she had a natural talent.

She loved to dance when she was a child, later she took dancing lessons at the Darwish Brothers Institute in Beirut and then used to "soak" out of Lebanon and work in Cyprus. She had to tell her family that the American company she worked for had sent her out on assignment.

For a long time she was afraid to work as a dancer in Beirut but she did become a "monologist" singer. When a fellow artist finally persuaded her that she should work as a dancer she changed the colour and style of her hair and her name was transformed from Eva Pegali to Zena Refat.

Zena's career flourished, but one night her brother saw her on television. He threatened to kill her and was only stopped by pleading from his wife and from his father. It was ten long, sad years until Zena and her family were reconciled.

Zena says that every belly dancer has her own special dances. In her case, she prac-

tices to one particular song and it takes from 10 to 15 days of continuous practice to perfect a new dance. She will then perform it for maybe two months before she changes to a new one.

She says she can dance for one and a half hours before she becomes really tired. Then she must rest for at least half an hour and drink a lot of water to replace the fluid she loses through perspiration.

The hardest aspect of a dancer's job, she says, is that no matter how one feels, psychologically or physically, one has to perform on schedule. The audience has paid and expects to be entertained.

Zena says she has been offered the chance to act but has not considered any script seriously because she "adores and cherishes" her career. If she was acting, in a film, for example, she would have to give up dancing so that she could be up early in the morning for shooting. As it is she does not usually get to sleep before five or six in the morning and then she sleeps until two or three in the afternoon.

Zena is now at the peak of her career and believes she has established herself as a dancer without sacrificing her self respect or her dignity. She is so busy she often years for a few days break and she says would be willing to give up dancing and settle down to have a family — if she could find the right man.

But for now Zena says "There is nothing more rewarding than warm applause and cheering from the audience."



Zena Refat "Nothing more rewarding than warm applause"

She remembers one incident when, during her final spins, she suddenly felt she really was spinning to the air. A member of her audience had become so carried away he had picked her up and was turning around with her. Finally they both fell on top of the musicians and the place erupted in laughter.

And often, she says, women in the audience jump on to the tables and join in the dancing.



Left: Grey tweedy sweater dress edged in black with grey and black cape, crownless hat, grey cuffs and carpenter's belt

Centre: Beige wool tunic teamed with black wool fly-front sweater and leather carpenter's belt

Right: Grey and cream honeycomb long-line sweater with cream wool skirt, cuffs and scarf.

It's time for the layers

Wardrobe today is the IN currency of fashion. Clothes you can pull on and belt, layer in different ways, leave loose to look sporty or doll up, are everybody's favourites.

For winter, top designers in Paris, London and New York channelled some of their best creative energies into jackets and sweaters layered over dresses or tube skirts, with long-line sweaters in chunky knits.

Colours for this season are grey, black, nudes and cream, with four strong shades to spice that up — yellow, purple, royal and red. In spite of their relaxed mood, the new tricot seems to have more finish, more styling, than last time around.

Neat collars and cuffs have been added in contrast tones. Joseph has worked in tweedy textures and chunky honeycomb patterns. The well-loved slit scarf that collapses in holes like origami is still there, but has been joined by

a simple loop of knitting that you drape like a cowl, or hang crossways like a handkerchief.

Skirts are uncompromising tubes, on the knee or to mid-calf. The latter looks elegant, but is not designed to facilitate a dash to the bus. There are tabards and pinafores to layer in contrasting colours, cardigans that knot, two colour capes and deep armhandsto push up as extra cuffs or wear like mitts.

(London Express Service)

The Jerusalem Star

Dear Reader: With this survey The Star hopes to get an idea of who our readers are, what they like or don't like and how we can better serve them. We hope you will take a few minutes of your time to fill the questionnaire below, answering as many of the questions as you like, and then mail it to us at Post Office Box 591, Amman.

All answers will be kept in strictest confidence and will be used for statistical purposes only. Thank you for your co-operation, and Good Reading!

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 - Adequate?
 - Poor?
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 - Henry Matar (Opinion)
 - Kamel Abu Jaber (Opinion)
 - Osama El-Sherif (Memorandum)
 - Joyce Abu Jassar (All Things Considered)
 - Hayford Attuah (Afro Scans)
 - Ya'qoub Salim (Just Between Us)
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- Do you like the Star's Centreplace?
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 - People
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 - Entertainment
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 (Check one or more)
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 - Economy and business reports?
 - World news coverage?
 - Middle East news coverage?
 - Human interest stories?
 - Cultural items and reports?
 - Sports coverage?
 - Entertainment items?
 - Other (Please specify):
- Please indicate your opinion concerning:
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 - Adequate
 - Poor
 - Very bad
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 - Very good
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 - Poor
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 - The weekly Calendar:
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 - Adequate
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 - Very bad
- Please state any additional remarks and observations you may have on the paper and how it can be improved.

Readership Survey

The Jerusalem Star
P.O. Box 591
Amman, Jordan

17 November 1983

living

All Things Considered



Here come the computers

THE AGE of the computer is upon us. And although Jordan is just beginning to be drawn into this era I predict that it won't be very long before we see more of them in our daily lives.

In America all billings for utilities — phones, electricity, water and the like, including credit accounts for cards — are done by computers. A lot of banking is also done by computers, so much so that the majority of banks now offer 24-hour computerised teller windows where you may make a deposit or withdrawal from your account at any time of the day or night.

Grocery and department stores have computerised check-out stands where clerks must pass each item purchased over a special sensor that keeps a continuous inventory of merchandise. This facilitates the clerical side of these businesses but it takes much longer for the individual clerk to get through with your transaction. And you can't bargain with a computer the way you can with friendly Jordanian shopkeepers.

Then there is the phenomenon of companies with staffs of telephone salesmen. These hawkers, armed with lists of names and numbers, spend their working hours calling up phone subscribers to sell them a wide variety of products and services. The public often resents this invasion into the privacy of their homes and reason that if they had wanted any of what was proffered via the telephone, they could surely locate the places where it was available by themselves.

As a reaction to phone soliciting many people have removed their numbers from the phone book and had them classified as private numbers. But some ingenious electronics engineer invented a computer that, when hooked up to the telephone system, will dial every possible combination of numbers until it hooks up with a "live" number — and the phone subscriber is annoyed with the unwanted call in spite of his own precautions.

On a more positive note there is now a home computer that can be attached to your present video games setup. The computer is capable of a wide variety of activities anywhere from turning on and off lights to household appliances at any given hour of the day and night — which means finding a fresh pot of coffee waiting for you in the kitchen every morning — to helping you keep track of the family budget — which means that when you discover that you have run out of money and it is still a week before payday, your handy home computer can supply you with a printed read-out showing just where you have made your monetary miscalculation. I'll bet that is a great comfort.

These omiscient machines with their reams of paper print-outs, shiny green screens, or vocal proclamations are becoming an increasing part of our lives. Computer sciences are now included in elementary school curriculae so that small children return home to tell Mum and Dad about integrated circuits, bytes, and floppy disks.

Fortunately for the parents, courses have been set up to inform them as to what their children are talking about. And if we all don't want to be left behind in the proverbial "cloud-of-dust" as posterity marches forward into a future filled with these multi-functional mechanisms, it looks as if it is back-to-school time for us. For better or for worse, here come the computers, changing our lives in ways we have yet to fathom.

Would you believe it?

A PAIR of red inflatable lips is waiting to be presented to the American news reader with the most "lip readable" lips on television.

The search for the news reader with the most eloquent silence is being carried out by the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf.

FRENCH Air Force bases are using hawks and falcons to clear the air of seagulls, pigeons and crows so that they will not be sucked into the jets of aircraft during take-off. At Strasbourg-Entzheim Airbase each time a jet is preparing for take-off four specially trained falcons and three hawks are sent circling above the base to scare the smaller birds away.

THE WELCOME home to British servicemen from the Falklands war last year was so warm that "an amazing 66% of war wives are estimated to have become pregnant within weeks," a British newspaper the Sunday People has reported.

It gave no figures of babies born since the soldiers returned from the 74-day campaign to end Argentina's occupation of the South Atlantic islands, but claimed births among service wives "are hitting new records nine months after their husbands returned from the war."

THE JERUSALEM STAR 15

Jordan wins safety award

• We should all be able to feel a little more secure after a recent award made in London. The Jordan Electricity Authority was given a special safety award by the British Safety Council.

Jordanian post-graduate student Jamal Yasia went along to the Mansion House in London to receive a sword of honour from the then Lord Mayor of London, Sir Anthony Jolliffe.

The Jordanian award was one of thirty made to representatives of firms from Britain and other countries in recognition of their achievements in reducing accidents and increasing training in occupational health and fire prevention.

The British Safety Council is one of the largest specialist industrial safety bodies in the world with 32,000 member companies employing more than 12 million people.

Mrs Insa Rasheed, wife of the Pakistani Ambassador gave a tea party this week in honour of Mrs. Sawar Khan, wife of Pakistan's Chief of Staff. The Khans are in Jordan on an official visit.

One special guest at the party was the Begum Shaspa Ikramullah, mother of Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath. The Begum has one or two remarkable firsts to her credit. She was Pakistan's first woman member of parliament and also served as



Jamal Yasia receives the sword of honour from Sir Anthony Jolliffe

an ambassador for her country after the death of her husband.

During the tea-party Mrs. Rasheed emphasized the close ties that exist between the peoples of Jordan and Pakistan. She said: "We Pakistanis are not strangers here, we are one people, breath the same air and have the same aims."

Mrs. Abed Kadi who is a Pakistani married to a Jordanian and Mrs. Ikram Arayan, a Jordanian married to a Pakistani who were both at the party would, no doubt, support Mrs. Rasheed on that.

• When American pianist Mary Stanton walks on stage at the Royal Cultural Centre on Monday and Tuesday night this week it seems nothing will faze her.

Mary has been playing the piano since she was five years old and she says she has learned to be 200 per cent prepared for any eventuality.

During one concert she gave in the Caribbean she had to contend with bats flying around the hall but she managed to retain her composure and finish the concert. Mary Stanton is regarded as one of America's most promising young pianists. She says establishing herself as a professional pianist is not easy. As part of her effort to establish a professional reputation she has undertaken seven major tours since 1975.



Mary Stanton

BNP welcomes new director to Amman



AMMAN — The French Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP), the second largest bank in the world in terms of deposits which has opened an Amman-based general representative office for Jordan, Iraq and Syria. Tuesday appointed a new Director for the bureau; Mr. Gerard Bouley to succeed Mr. Andre Jaccard in Amman.

Mr. Jaccard who has been director of the Amman bureau since it was established in 1980, said that he has been transferred back to the BNP head-office in Paris.

Mr. Jaccard said that prior to the opening of the representative office, the BNP initiated contacts with the Jordanian government as well as with other banks in the country, leading to the opening of the new bureau in Amman.

According to Mr. Jaccard, business has been good since the BNP office opened in Amman in 1980, but with the recent negative effects on the economy caused by the Iraq-Iran war and the oil crisis in the area, things started to slow down.

Mr. Bouley who is succeeding Mr. Jaccard said that the opening of a BNP representative office in Jordan helps strengthening business and trade relationships between France and Jordan through joint venture finance investments and large projects.

BNP is a bank originally established in 1848 at the time when it was called Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris (CNEP) which started opening branches abroad since 1860 when they first opened a branch in Calcutta.

In the 1920's The Banque Nationale Pour Le Commerce et l'Industrie (BNCI) was established and became one of the largest banks in France. In 1945, French banks were nationalised by the government.

In 1966 the French government merged both banks, CNEP & BNCI, into the BNP, the largest bank in France and the second largest in the world.

The bank has large networks around the world especially in the English and French speaking countries. BNP is represented in 78 countries.

Mr. Bouley arrived in Amman last Sunday from Athens, Greece, where he was working at the BNP branch there. He also worked in other BNP branches in India, Nigeria, Norway and United Kingdom.

Mr. Jean Thomazeau, Manager, head of the Middle East Department BNP-Paris, was present at the reception held at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel on the occasion of the arrival of Mr. and Mrs. G. Bouley and the departure of Mr. and Mrs. A. Jaccard.

Other ladies present included Mrs. Feroza Siddiqi who is secretary of the Pakistani Women's Association, Mrs. Lalita Muhammad Ali who is accompanying Mrs. Khan during her visit to Jordan, Mrs. Amer Khamash, Mrs. Fathi Aba Taleb, Dr. Mawiyah Bakri who is president of the Arab Women University Graduates Club, Mrs. Tilmant Iqbal Bhatti, Victoria Amelish of Jordan Television, Mrs. Nabila Masri and Mrs. Nada Haanula were also present.

Unfortunately duty prevented Pakistani nurses from the University of Jordan Hospital from attending, but nurses from the King Hussein Medical Centre and the Islamic Hospital were able to join the gathering.

Mrs. Rasheed was very pleased to note the active contribution made to Jordan's charity work by Pakistani women living here. She said that, so far this year activities under the sponsorship of Princess Sarvath has raised JD 5,100, JD 3,100 for the Umm El-Hussain orphanage and JD 2,000 for the handicapped. Mrs. Rasheed is hoping the ladies will keep up the good work in the coming years.



Gulshan Sleem

• Turkish born artist Gulshan Sleem who has been exhibiting her paintings at the Alla Art Gallery this week, says she is a housewife first and artist only second. But she has managed to produce enough work for exhibitions in Damascus, Muscat and Amman and she is particularly proud of the fact that she was the first artist ever to hold an exhibition in Muscat, Oman.

Gulshan is married to Mazen Sleem, Area Manager for Alla in Dubai where the couple live with their two children.

• A group of Jordanian artists will be testing themselves against the artists of the world in December. Yasser Duwelk, Rafiq Laham, Mahmoud Tahn, Habib Qasbi, Sahar Qamli and Ahmad Na'was are sending their work to the 1983 International Print Exhibition in Taipei, the Republic of China. Altogether 3002 pieces from 110 artists have been submitted for the exhibition. Prizes of up to JD 1,000 will be awarded for the best work.

Calendar

The American Centre presents a recital by pianist Mary Stanton at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Tuesday 22 and Wednesday 23 November at 8.00 pm.

Children's activities

The Hays Arts Centre presents a week of children's activities including two plays, a book fair, games and competitions. The plays will be presented every day at 4.00 pm.

Continues until Monday 21 November.

Exhibitions

The Royal Cultural Centre presents a retrospective exhibition of paintings by Princess Fahralnissa.

Continues until 5 December.

The French Cultural Centre presents an exhibition of paintings by Ahmad Nawash.

Continues until Tuesday 22 November.

The Alla Art Gallery presents two exhibitions:

Paintings by Turkish artist Gulshan Sleem

Continues until Friday 18 November.

Oil paintings by Jordanian artist Yasser Duwelk

Monday 21 November until Wednesday 30 November.

The British Council presents "Concerned Buildings" an exhibition on aspects of conservation in the United Kingdom.

Continues until Wednesday 30 November.

The American Centre presents "Threads: Seven American Artists and Their Miniature Textile Paintings."

Continues until Tuesday 22 November.

Theatre

The Al-Fawwaz theatre group presents the play "The Dream of Toot Tat Teet" at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Continues until Sunday 20 November at 7.00 pm.

Films

The Centre Audiovisual Regional presents "Yoyo" a 1964 film by Pierre Etaix, starring Pierre Etaix, Philippe Dronet, Claudine Auger and Lucie Klein.

Saturday 19 November at 8.30 pm.

"Le Desordre a 20 Ans" a 1967 film by Jacques Baratier.

Tuesday 22 November at 8.30 pm.

The British Council presents "Heritage to Build On" and "Caring for History" two films on the issues and skills involved in preserving historical buildings.

Tuesday 22 November at 7.30 pm.

Lectures

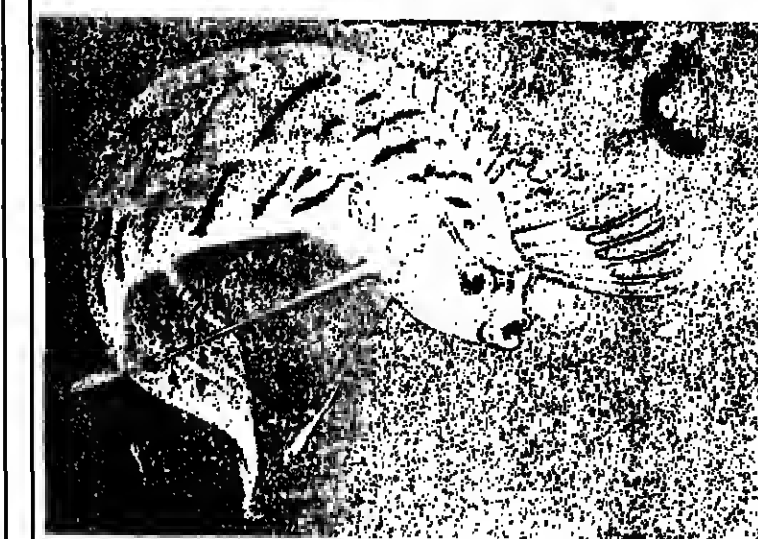
The Danish Institute presents a lecture by Professor Svend Holm-Nielsen of the University of Copenhagen on "The Danish Excavation at Umm Qais".

Wednesday 23 November at 8.00 pm.

The American Centre of Oriental Research presents a series of lectures by Dr. C. Leuzan on the Pottery of Jordan with special emphasis on the Hellenistic to Islamic periods.

Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.15 pm.

ODDITIES



The sea-serpent is probably the sea-serpent of the sailors' stories.

What is a sea-serpent?

From the earliest times sailors have told us of strange creatures which they have seen on their journeys. The chief of these monsters is the sea-serpent, which in the stories of sailors is often like a snake with a red head. It is said to be more than twenty feet long, and it may even be fifty.

Along the middle of the back, there is a fin which extends all the way to the end. The fins are bright scarlet; and the fish has a head which might look at a distance like that of a sea-horse. It is probable that the sea-serpent is one of the real things which sailors have seen.

Sabah

Forgiveness

As any other child, I used to listen to my grandmother telling me stories. But one of these stories got stuck in my mind and I like to convey it to all other children. It is about doing always good and never underestimate others. And that forgiveness could always be of good use in future. The story goes like this:

One day a lion, the King of the forest, was asleep beside his den. A mouse (rat) climbed on the lion's back while playing. The lion was disturbed and he got up in anger. He caught up the mouse in his paws to take pity on it and said, "I could be of some use to you in future." The lion got the idea and spared its life.

Time passed on and one day the mouse observed the same lion, King of the forest, caught up in a hunter's net. The lion tried his best but could not escape. The mouse remembered the forgiveness of the lion and he quickly cut the net with his sharp teeth. The lion was set free before the hunter could kill him.

When the lion came out, he saw the same small mouse standing in front of him. Then he realized the importance of the mouse and the reward of forgiveness.

This story was sent by Zaki Qurban who joins Al-Amsna School. Thanks Zaki.

Our Fascinating EARTH

BY PHILIP SEFF, P.L.D. & DAVID BAER II

A FORTUNE LOST

IN 1886 GEORGE HARRISON, A SOUTH AFRICAN PROSPECTOR, FOUND TRACES OF GOLD IN THE WITWATERSRAND BASIN.



AT THAT TIME SO POOR THAT HE SOLD HIS CLAIM FOR A MEASLY FORTY POUNDS, HE THEREBY WON THE RARE OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A MULTIMILLIONAIRE. THE RANDWATER BECAME A MAJOR SOURCE OF THE PRECIOUS METAL, AND TODAY PRODUCES OVER 70% OF THE WORLD'S GOLD.

A rainy day

When the sky is so dark and gloomy
You know it's a rainy day.
If water falls on your head or you get wet
You know it's a rainy day.

When you step in mud or get yourself muddy
You know it's a rainy day.
If your clothes get wet or you get a spasm
You know it's a rainy day.

Our friend Naser Hamdi wrote this poem telling us that winter is on its way to visit us and giving hints about rainy days.

Thanks Naser

Spot the Difference

TICKLISH ROMAN LION

Answers

1. Gladiator's cross-stripe is on other shoulder
2. He holds longer net in his hand
3. End of lion's tail is shaggy
4. Roman emperor wears medallion on gold chain
5. Jassal has vanished from corner of hanging banner
6. Tip of centurion's sword is concealed by canopy fringe
7. House in centre foreground has become thicker
8. A pennant flying at top of arena wall is black
9. Fingers of centurion's left hand are clenched
10. Archway in wall behind him is higher

PEANUTS

featuring
"Good ol'
Charlie Brown"
by SCHULZ

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT

I'LL HAVE TO LOOK IT UP...

ARCHERY, BASKETBALL, BOXING, CANOEING, CYCLING, FENCING...

GYMNASTICS, SWIMMING, DIVING, TRACK AND FIELD...

I HATE TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT...

THERE'S NO CHARIOT RACING IN NEXT YEAR'S OLYMPICS...

I EVEN CALLED THE LIBRARY

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Tarzan

by EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS

AFTER THREE HOURS OF HUNGER, EVEN LIZ MARKHAM WILL EAT UNCOOKED MEAT, BUT ALONG WITH THE FRESH GAME, TARZAN BRINGS BAD NEWS.

SEA PIRATE! PROTEST! THE BOAT! THE THROAT! THE 19TH CENTURY.

THERE WERE PIRATES IN THESE WATERS UP TO THE BEGINNING OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR.

LOOK! IT'S A BEACH! WE FOUND US!

THE IMPORTANT THING IS THEY DON'T KNOW WE'RE HERE. LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY!

WE'VE COMBED THESE WATERS FOR TWO WEEKS, LADY GREYSTOKE. THERE'S ANOTHER STORM COMING IN. THE NAVY'S GIVEN UP. SHOULD'N'T YOU?

I'LL GIVE YOU A BLANK CHECK, OR YOU CAN NAME YOUR PRICE IN GOLD BULLION. JUST PLEASE, FLY THE PLANE.

SPOTTING THE WRECKAGE OF MARKHAM'S PLANE, JANE HEADS TO AUSTRALIA FOR REINFORCEMENTS. BUT SOMEBODY ELSE HAS ALSO DISCOVERED THE WRECKAGE. SURELY MARKHAM AND HIS DYAK WIFES!

NOW THEY'LL BE SEARCHING FOR SURVIVORS, TOO. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE WHO FINDS US FIRST!

HERE I AM! HERE I AM! LOOK! LOOK!

STOP IT AND GET DOWN!

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FRANK & ERNEST

YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW IT, ERNIE, BUT I HAVE MYSTIC POWERS.

YEAH? LIKE WHAT?

FOR ONE THING, I CAN READ MINDS!

REALLY? LET'S SEE YOU READ MINE!

OKAY.

WELL...?

I'M WAITING FOR YOU TO TURN IT ON.

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GARFIELD

ISN'T THAT PATHETIC?

OPIE, ALL YOU EVER DO IS STARE AND Slobber

YOU'RE TOO HAPPY, AND THAT'S NOT HEALTHY

PEOPLE DON'T TRUST A CHRONICALLY HAPPY PERSON

WHO COULD POSSIBLY LOVE A GRINNING IDIOT LIKE YOU?

YOU STAY OUT OF THIS

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'Petra Bank Jordan Rally' in February



AMMAN (Star) — The Amman Little League soccer competition officially ended on 11 November. The ten-week soccer jamboree saw a total of 20 teams competing for honours in three different divisions.

In the cup final playoffs, International Traders beat Foxboro 3-0 to win the trophy in the Juniors division. ALK who led in the Mids division throughout the league beat Arab Wings 4-2. Holiday Inn defeated much-fancied Marriott 3-1 on penalties to lift the trophy in the Seniors division.

Picture above shows the victorious Holiday Inn team after the match.

AMMAN (Star) — The Royal Automobile Club of Jordan will hold a car rally on 3 February next year. The event which is the third national rally in the current series is being sponsored by the Petra Bank.

In a release to The Star the Press Relations Officer of the Club Mr. Suhail Marar said the aim of the rally is to attract newcomers to the sport and also unearth more Jordanian talents to compete in the forthcoming Jordan International Rally scheduled for the end of July next year.

Eligible participants for the competition are nationals and foreigners who are resident in Jordan. The entry fee is JD 10 and registration is open at the Club's headquarters on the Eighth Circle in Amman.

Mr. Marar said the rally will cover a distance of 200 kilometres of which nearly 70 kilometres will be 'special stages'. These special stages fourteen in all will be timed to the second. And the competitor with the



least aggregate time in these special stages will be declared the winner.

Unlike other international events, the requirements for competing cars will be minimal due to the route the rally will take. However safety requirements in all competing cars are essential. These include a roll bar of

approved design, seat belts, fire extinguishers, crash helmets and a first aid kit.

Mr. Marar emphasised that the choice of the route has been made to test driving talent and to discover potentially good drivers adding that, these drivers will be helped to attain international standards in order to represent Jordan in coming events.

He said, unlike previous rallies spectators will this time be privileged to see a lot of action, because of the proximity of special stages to each other and their nearness to Amman City. A side attraction of the rally will be a photographic competition sponsored by Sakura Company.

New committee for sportswriters

AMMAN (Star) — The Minister of Youth and Culture Mr. Ma'n Abu Nowar has appointed a temporary administrative Committee for the Sportswriters Association for the next six months.

The Committee is charged with amending the bye-laws of the Association aimed at co-ordinating with other Associations in the Arab world and on the international level.

The president of the eight-member committee is Mr. Mohammad Tayib. Other members are: Mr. Mohammad Shami (Ad-Dustour), Messrs Mohammad Ismail, Abdul-Qader and Nazmi Al-Said (Al Rai). The rest are Mr. Salim Hamdan (Sports World), Mr. Saif Dawagreh (Al Shuab), Messrs Othman Qurayni and Waqqas Tell (Weekly papers) and Mr. Kan'an Izzat (Jordan Radio).

The committee will hold its inaugural meeting on Saturday at the Association's office.

Champion withdraws

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Defending Champion Chris Evert-Lloyd of the United States has pulled out of the Australian open tennis championships due to start at Melbourne's Kooyong Stadium on 28 November.

A Lawn Tennis Association of Australia spokesman said Evert-Lloyd had pulled out of the championship field because of a foot injury. He did not have any further details.

The field for the women's singles is still due to include last year's beaten finalist Martina Navratilova of Czechoslovakia, Andrea Jaeger and Pam Shriver of the United States, Wendy Turnbull of Australia, Sylvia Hanika of West Germany, Virginia Ruzici of Romania, Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, and Billie Jean King.

Navratilova, who won the Australian open singles in 1981 and 1982, and Shriver are top defending doubles champions.

17 November

Horoscope Starcasts

By Henry Arnold

Week commencing 17 November, 1983

CAPRICORN — December 21st to January 19th



Some ideas which you have could be of very great use to a colleague, and by accepting their suggestions, you at the same time could make a very good friend. Just as long as you allow your imagination full scope, particularly where a social event is concerned, you will be very pleased with the outcome this week. Do not listen to the idle chatter of a friend this week. Much better to check up on the facts yourself.

AQUARIUS — January 20th to February 18th



You could find that you would be very well advised during this coming week, to allow yourself to be guided by an older person, however much you may not want to. For their experience could be invaluable for the future. Where your financial position is concerned, the indications are that you can expect a small increase towards week's end.

PISCES — February 19th to March 20th



The highlight of your coming week appears to be an extremely agreeable surprise of a financial nature, which should come your way some time this week, and quite unexpectedly so. You may also find yourself being called upon to do a little strenuous entertaining some time during this coming week. You should not be unduly worried about this, for you will be able to take this in your stride.

ARIES — March 21st to April 20th



Some temporary changes taking place around you at work could worry you just a little. However, this is quite unnecessary, for it should turn out to be much more help to you than you now think. You could find yourself in a position to re-start a friendship which has been going through a rather difficult period. Try not to be too impulsive, for this could once again become a pleasant association. An unexpected visitor could arrive at the weekend.

TAURUS — April 21st to May 20th



The portents are that there should be two very exciting points arising during this coming week, and if you are prepared to accept these as they come, you will be extremely happy. However, you must guard against expecting too much just at the present time. You could also find yourself meeting up again with someone either by chance or design, to whom you were extremely attracted to when you first met some time ago.

GEMINI — May 21st to June 20th



A colleague at business who is in a higher position than yourself should help you by some well deserved praise, at some time during this coming week. This in turn will make your outlook seem brighter, and at the same time, will make you feel more secure than you have felt for some time past. An exceptional week is indicated in the emotional field, and an association will bring you much happiness and contentment.

Thursday 18 November

Birthday Greetings to You. A letter arriving during the next month will bring you some surprising news of an old friend, and in connection with this, you could be involved in an unexpected journey which should have a very pleasing result.

The coming year should bring you happiness with an unexpected piece of good fortune coming your way very soon. Financially, things will go more smoothly than ever before, but do not join in a venture that someone will put you in the near future.

A great deal extra may be demanded of you by your family during the next few months, but do not refuse to follow the advice of an older person in this matter. Be careful in your conversation with a neighbour who is inclined to gossip, as a light remark on your part could be easily misunderstood and lead to complications.

Friday 19 November

Birthday Greetings to You. There may be an opportunity to travel within the next few months, and you would be foolish to turn it down, for many pleasant associations could arise from this journey, and a secret ambition could be fulfilled.

Your career will take an unexpected turn this coming year, and someone in a very responsible position will reward you for all your efforts.

Financially, this is going to be quite a good year, and you should feel more secure than you have been. You may receive an offer to go into some new venture with a close friend. Take plenty of time over coming to a decision as you will have a good deal on your hands this year, and it would be unwise to over-tire yourself.

Saturday 19 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Try not to be suspicious of a very close person, for if you are, this could hurt them very much, and in any case, your reasons for this could be quite unfounded.

Your personal life should be extremely happy throughout the coming year. During the next few weeks, you may be just a little anxious about some family problems, but as long as you are prepared to try and sort things out and have a go, you should find that very soon, family affairs will be running smoothly again.

From the beginning of February, you may find that a lot of your time will be taken up with the planning of a new venture, and given time, this should prove to be very successful indeed and could also help to improve your financial position.

CANCER — June 21st to July 21st

A very exciting proposition should be put to you by someone in an influential position during this week. This could be a wonderful opportunity for you, so do not stand for any interference from others on this score. The coming week should be full of variety for you, and things should be more settled in the home, particularly regarding an elderly relative. A loved one and yourself could have a small problem to surmount.

LEO — July 22nd to August 21st

You would be very well advised to remember that any future changes which you may have in mind, you should attempt to get really settled down before you discuss these with a partner, otherwise this could make them appear to be muddled and confused. A rather energetic week is indicated for your opposite number, so it would be wise for you to try to keep up with them. Your financial position could take a turn for the better.

VIRGO — August 22nd to September 21st

An invitation to make a change away from your normal routine could result in your having an extremely busy week, and also a very satisfactory one. A surprise visit from an old friend could be the reason for a celebration, and some arrangements for a future excursion could be discussed. You could meet a member of the opposite sex, and this could be the start of a romantic relationship, and you will be feeling much happier.

LIBRA — September 22nd to October 22nd

You may find that you are not feeling quite up to your usual standard during this coming week, and if you do not attempt to stay abreast of things, you may find yourself lagging behind in most matters. Also, by being tactful and diplomatic in the emotional field, things should go extremely well for you. A friend whom you have not known for a very long time, may ask to borrow money. It would be much wiser for you to refuse.

SCORPIO — October 23rd to November 21st

You would be very well advised to try your best to stay out of an argument which could arise between two people around you, however much they may try to draw you into it. This should be one of your gayest weeks for some time past, and you should be able to spend a great deal of your leisure hours with very happy people around you. There should be more scope for your ideas this week.

SAGITTARIUS — November 22nd to December 20th

A much calmer week lies ahead of you, and therefore, it would be advisable for you to get as much work done as you possibly can, both in the home and at work. A new acquaintance that you have recently met, could do a great deal to contributing happiness to your week, especially at the weekend. A last minute invitation will cause you lots of rush and hurry this week, but this will be so successful that you will soon forget the initial upheaval.

Monday 21 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Family affairs should be really happy this year, as the indications are that a closer understanding should be established. Any children born in your family around the March period, have strong signs of being extremely talented.

You may have quite a lot of extra work to do during the next three months, but it should prove to be well worth it because in connection with this, your financial situation should improve considerably.

The indications are that your personal life could suffer a few ups and downs during the next month, but after that, it appears that everything should be straightened out, and a very romantic time is indicated for you.

Tuesday 22 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Within the next three or four months, a very old friend whom you have not seen for quite some time should write to you, and offer you a chance to travel. It will be a mistake to miss this opportunity, yet at the same time, do not be too hasty or impulsive about a decision.

You may feel just a little anxious about some members of your family, and also some extra responsibility may be put on your shoulders, but with diplomatic handling, family affairs should soon be sorted out.

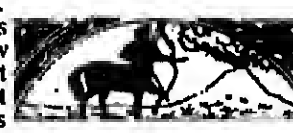
For those who are still single, there will be several romances between now and April, but soon after that, an exciting new member of the opposite sex will enter your life. This could become a very serious relationship and may well result in marriage.

Wednesday 23 November

Birthday Greetings to You. Where your working life is concerned, you may be approached by someone to take a much more responsible position, and this should benefit you financially. There could be slight jealousy from a colleague, but this will only be a passing phase.

Where your health is concerned, there is a tendency towards colds, but apart from this, you should be quite fit and well. Where romance is concerned, the eligible ones amongst you may have a slight disappointment, but soon after that, a new person comes into your life, and this could very well mean wedding bells for you in the near future.

From a financial point of view, this should be an extremely good year for you, and all the hard work that you have been doing should be rewarded, so that by the time you reach your next birthday, you will be feeling very secure.



WE'LL WORRY ABOUT THE REST

Only a qualified technician could rightly judge, select and maintain a delicate machine like a photocopier. This is where expertise and extensive technical knowledge make all the difference, especially when it comes to your satisfaction as an owner of the TOSHIBA BD 45 Series.

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TV this week

Kennedy lovers take note

JORDAN TELEVISION says it has achieved its coup of the month by obtaining "Kennedy", a seven-hour mini-series that it is planning to present this week to mark the 20th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination.

Viewers who are interested would be well advised to set aside a large chunk of their time to accommodate this programme, which is being presented simultaneously with Central Independent Television (CIT) in the UK and the United States' National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC).

The in-depth dramatisation, in three parts, traces JFK's presidential career from the night before his victory in the November 1960 election to 22 November 1963, the day of his assassination. "The series not only examines the political events of Kennedy's years in the White House but also looks at his family and private life during the same period," the JTV official told us.

The right hand knoweth not...

BECAUSE OF the above-described piece of special scheduling, this will be the second week in a row that viewers have been unable to see "The Secret Army", which by consensus is one of the best dramatic series ever to have been seen on Jordan TV or elsewhere. Last week it was replaced by another special programme... and thereby hangs a tale.

Last Tuesday's special show was "Jerash: Pompeii of the East" by the BBC, and like "Kennedy", it too was shown in the UK simultaneously with its transmission here. The only problem is that we're sure that very few of the BBC's home viewers (and probably not too many viewers in Jordan itself) know that the "five-year" international project to excavate and restore the ancient

Reg Gedney, who is an English writer, historian and dramatist, is the prime mover behind the production. Long fascinated by the Kennedy era, he suggested the project to CIT and was immediately commissioned to write the script. "Kennedy" was subsequently acquired by NBC.

Producer Andrew Brown and Director Jim Goddard assembled what JTV calls an "outstanding US star cast" for the production. JFK is played by Martin Sheen, with Blair Brown as his socialite wife Jacqueline. John Shee plays Kennedy's brother and Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, who himself fell victim to an assassin's bullet in 1968; clan leader Joseph Kennedy is played by E.G. Marshall, and his wife Rose by Geraldine Fitzgerald.

"Kennedy" will be shown on Sunday, 20 November at 8:30 p.m. (three hours), and Monday and Tuesday at 9 p.m. (two hours each).

Decapolis city has ground to a standstill, after little more than a year in the field.

Lack of funds is blamed for this decision by the Antiquities Department. Far be it from us to blame anybody for this, but it might have been nice if JTV had been told about it before screening the well-produced and impressive show, which as things stood was fairly ironical. Nor were Ms. Cave and the BBC let in on the true state of things, which means that there's little hope of some wealthy Englishman taking mercy on Jerash and volunteering to fund the project privately, as the JTV spokesman said he hoped might happen.

Despite all that, we hope to see "The Secret Army" return to the screen next week — and let will make us all happier.

HOLIDAY INN HOTEL

Ambassador Suite — (9-2 a.m.)
Dinner, Dancing and Show.
A Touch of Magic Showband; Alex Netur & Ida
Magic Show; Continental Romance
Duke Bar — (10:00-12:30) Live Music

AMMAN MARRIOTT HOTEL

Al Rababa Nightclub — (8:30-11:00)
Dinner, Dancing and Show.
Kontaki — All styles of music
Al Wallma Restaurant (7:30-11:30)
Kon Moto — classical music
Pgolide Barbeque Buffet — (Sunday 8-11:00)

JORDAN INTERCONTINENTAL

Al Pasha Disco — (9-3 a.m.)
Saturday (6-8) Under 18 only.
Barbeque Nightly with live music (6:30-10:30)

AMMAN CROWN HOTEL

Al Khayma Disco — (9-2 a.m.)
Poolside — Thursday & Saturday (8:30-morning)
Fridays — Buffet

AMRA HOTEL

Shehrzad Disco — (9-3 a.m.)
Couples only closed Mondays

REGENCY PALACE HOTEL

Al Alal nightclub — (9-2 a.m.)
Dinner, Dancing and show.
Sequence Band

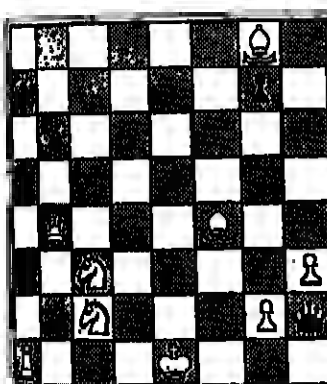
LA CESAR NIGHTCLUB — Jebel Lweldah

Dinner, Dancing and Live Music
Every Night — (9:00-3:00 a.m.)

BRIDGE
by
Terence
Reese

North
S 8 7
Q J 10 9
A 8 6
J 10 8
West
K 8 4 2
Q 8 6 3
A 8 6 3
South
A 8 4 2
K J 6
Q 10 7 5
K 10 7 5
A 8 7 4

Dealer North. Love all.
Marshall Miller's book, All Fifty-Two Cards, has been published in a new edition, not readily available outside America.



Try this offbeat puzzle by W. Keym. The black king is missing from the board, and you have to decide where the king should be placed for it to be checkmate in one move. The answer is harder than it looks, and the puzzle has defeated several strong chessplayers in its time.

How many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters

Miles concentrated on quite ordinary hands where a particular inference could be drawn by the declarer. On the deal above Bob Hamman was South and Miles himself was West. After two passes South opened One Spade and North raised to Four Spades. West led a trump, South won in dummy and led a diamond to the King and Ace. West exited with a second trump. South led the next diamond and run to West's 8. West exited with the diamond Queen.

The declarer ruffed in dummy and led a club to the King, which held. At this point it seems that he will need the heart finesse. However, Hamman drew the inference from West's trump leads that he was not keen to broach the hearts and probably held the Queen. Reserving his chances, he ruffed the fourth diamond, returned to hand with a trump, and led his last trump. If East had come down to three hearts and Ace of clubs he would have been thrown in. East in fact kept 10x and a 9. South then made the contract by leading J and pinning the 10.

shown here? In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each word must contain the large letter, and there must be at least one nine-letter word in the list. No plurals; no foreign words; no proper names. TODAY'S TARGET: 16 words, good; 20 words, very good; 24 words, excellent.

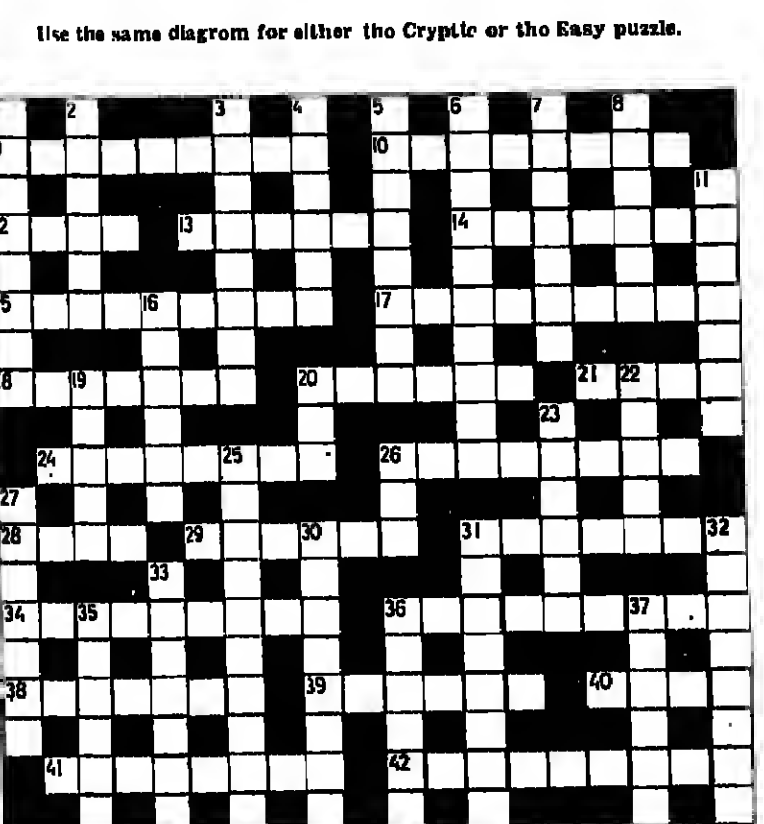
ALL SOLUTIONS ON P 22

THE STAR TWO-WAY TEASER

Use the same diagram for either the Cryptic or the Easy puzzle.

ACROSS
1 Not colonised, when disturbed one (1)
10 Making it clear to a body by moonlight (8)
12 Incline to be a cad (4)
16 Water where the first leaves appear (1)
14 A dull film (7)
10 Air opening a tile is treated to set (1)
17 Quickly giving the girl another (2, 1, 8)
18 Giving the shaken airman time to put on clothes (7)
20 Furious at how one was fighting a war (1)
21 A slur, dare it (4)
24 Backs I'll get the attendants to carry (8)
26 One's rotten in time (8)
28 It's right to have a vacancy in the flat (1)
29 Tears out the number inserted, fast (1)
31 How the doctor nagged (7)
34 Safe and sound, mentally (8)
36 Lovers are silly (10)
38 Saying goodbye here, I run into the house (7)
39 Dances and obtains bits of the old bills (1)
40 Not bound to deliver (4)
41 Even urged to go round topless, quills (8)
42 Won't play and gets quite vicious (8)

DOWN
1 It's very easy to be useless (4)
2 Being behind with the pen's wrong, for a start (8)
3 A restorative drink, a gap, before trouble (8)
4 Information on a commercial failure (8)
5 Not having the counterfeiting head caught (8)
6 Was poor wicker so balance (8)
7 He is obviously surprised when his pistol goes off (7)
8 I like the woolly dog, in blue (8)
9 Follows the animals that had entered (7)
10 Standards of perfection for police dogs differ (8)
11 The I like a dot, I interpret, "ellie" (15)
12 On (6) up (8)
13 Get off the beam (5)
14 Meaning to save money on hotel bills? (8)
15 Have it peacemaker when you talk to on the telephone? (8, 7)
16 A letter, say, that comes by (8)
17 Lead to the counter-revolution (7)
18 Declared (8)
19 They have a tendency to flare up out of (8)
20 "Fellers," one says nervously (8)
21 Give out when you get mixed up (8)



ACROSS
6 Bruebad and cleaned and prepared the meat (7)
30 What were speakers of are the moths he's escaped from (8)
36 Commend for packer the spare one (10)
37 Are upset by your epithet "upright" (8)

DOWN
1 Timon (8)
2 Taciturnity (10)
3 Contrary (8)
4 Gain (8)
5 Intense (8)
6 Begins (8)
7 Win over (8)
8 Outlines ending implements (10)
9 Stimulate (7)
10 Married Spanish woman (8)
11 Intimate (7)
12 On (6) up (8)
13 Extra (8)
14 Edible pulled kernels (8)
15 Hobbies (8)
16 Fake turns (8)
17 Awful (7)
18 Ride part (8)
19 Mountains (4)
20 Rose (8)
21 Delamity (8)
22 Period of bowling (4)
23 Declared (8)
24 Wearing clothes (7)
25 Best of harden (8)
26 Make narrower (9)
27 Edible feedstock (7)
28 Bell-gown (8)
29 Astral body (4)

JORDAN TELEVISION						
Channel 6: Foreign programme						
Programming on Jordan Television is subject to change without notice.						
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WED
6:00 Variety	5:30 Film	Juventus: Lo Villaga Dana Leo Nuaga	6:30 Tetelin	Documentaire	Fugition (Friges)	Documentaire
News in French						
7:00 Variety	Documentaire	Juventus: Plage	Dances	Magazine Sport	Juventus: Jaton	Aujourd'hui en France
News in Hebrew						
Documentary						
News in Arabic						
8:30 Are You Being Served?	Orson Welles Mysteries	V.A.S.H.	Yes Minister	Benson	Hi de Hi	Three's Company
9:00 100 Great Paintings	Magazine OI	Portraits of Power	Towards 2000	100 Great Paintings	Towards 2000	
9:10 The Love Boat	The Barometer Chronicles	Saturday Variety Show	The Citadel	Nancy Astor	The Secret Army	Documentary
NEWS AT TEN (English)						
10:15 Movie of the Week	Hart to Hart	Feature Film (Last Saturday of each month Shakespeare)	Best Seller	The A-Team	Hill Street Blues	
Arabic news summary						
Film (cont.)	Film (cont.)					

SOLUTIONS

Chess

The obvious try is to put the king at Black's Q6 and for White to mate by 1 Castles — but then Black would have no legal previous move. The king could only reach Q6 from illegal double checks at Q5, Q5, K5 OR K6.

But the king can be legally at Q6 if it is Black's move in the diagram, and then Black checkmates in one by Q-KK8. The king can also be at Black's Q6 when it is White win mates in one by 1 Q-QK5.

Few solvers spot both answers, so take full credit if you were half right.

Target

Fist fitness fuse fuss FUSTNESS infest infuse inset insetness sent slit sine sinus site's sue suit snitsuit smiles sunset tenusluse

Crossword

CRYPTIC SOLUTION

ACROSS—9. Unsettled; 10. Overdone; 11. Heat; 12. Spring; 13. Tarnish; 14. Vantage; 15. A second; 16. Reimburse; 17. Waning; 18. Blow; 19. P-Village; 20. Bad in case; 21. R-O-T-a; 22. Starve; 23. Treated; 24. Un-touched; 25. Pointless; 26. O-heart; 27. Exotic; 28. 11. (un)evolved; 29. Sarcasm; 30. O-heart; 31. Exotic; 32. Down; 33. Push-over; 34. Alarm; 35. Phosphate; 36. Advice; 37. For; 38. 5. Rast-raised; 39. Star; 40. 1. Indigo; 41. 8. Shed; 42. 1. Indigo; 43. 1. Indigo; 44. 1. Indigo; 45. 1. Indigo; 46. 1. Indigo; 47. 1. Indigo; 48. 1. Indigo; 49. 1. Indigo; 50. 1. Indigo; 51. 1. Indigo; 52. 1. Indigo; 53. 1. Indigo; 54. 1. Indigo; 55. 1. Indigo; 56. 1. Indigo; 57. 1. Indigo; 58. 1. Indigo; 59. 1. Indigo; 60. 1. Indigo; 61. 1. Indigo; 62. 1. Indigo; 63. 1. Indigo; 64. 1. Indigo; 65. 1. Indigo; 66. 1. Indigo; 67. 1. Indigo; 68. 1. Indigo; 69. 1. Indigo; 70. 1. Indigo; 71. 1. Indigo; 72. 1. Indigo; 73. 1. Indigo; 74. 1. Indigo; 75. 1. Indigo; 76. 1. Indigo; 77. 1. Indigo; 78. 1. 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